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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 18.

MARCH, 1893.

No. 3

We have had an opportunity of inspecting the perfected Rudolph catalog machine, and we find it a work of great ingenuity, a remarkable adaptation of means to ends, in which the evident expenditure of a great deal of thought has led to a result at once so simple and so apt that the inconsiderate public will think it required no thought at all. It may work a great revolution in cataloging, or rather in the method of presenting the catalog to the public, for cataloging proper is not affected by it in the least; the books have to be cataloged for it exactly as they are for a card catalog. It does not even give any superior facilities for stealing titles from other catalogs; for titles can be cut out and pasted on cards about as easily as they can be cut out and pasted on the bristol-board sheets of this machine. But it has the immense advantage of presenting many titles to the eye at once. For purposes either of study and comparison or of quick consultation this can hardly be overestimated. But it is the sole undoubted advantage of the machine. For all the others claimed for it the machine has the defects of its qualities. Take, for example, its saving of space. The specimen shown had used a small and eye-trying type; if a more comfortable type should be used the capacity of the machine would be much diminished. Again the great saving depends on the whole catalog being put into one machine; but that means that only one person can consult it; if two are used so that two persons are accommodated the saving is one-half as great; and when machines enough are used to give as many persons a chance to use it as can consult a card catalog of equal extent the saving disappears altogether. The position which a short-sighted person must take in using it would render any long consultation very irksome, and this to a certain extent counterbalances the comfort of having many titles before one at once.

We are not yet ready to advise all libraries to convert their card catalogs into machine catalogs; we could not without more trial advise those who are about to begin a catalog to use this form; but we can say that the latter persons ought to seriously and carefully consider the comparative merits of the card catalog, the Leyden books, and the Rudolph machines.

ONCE more the library profession is forced to take issue with an architect. If the interview with Mr. Flagg, reported in the New York *Tribune* and reprinted in this issue, is to be relied upon it is evident that even if Mr. Flagg is "the architect of the new Corcoran Art Gallery" he has still much to learn when it comes to the planning of a library. If reported correctly, Mr. Flagg can find no better way of utilizing the two great wings of the New York City Hall, in readapting it for the uses of the Tilden Library, than to turn them into two great halls "extending through the two principal stories . . . divided into tiers of alcoves, each having a window at the end, and to be provided with a table where students could pursue their studies." In other words, Mr. Flagg will take over half the building (and the most valuable half at that), fit it so as to secure a minimum amount of book space, a maximum amount of distance between the books, a temperature as trying both to humanity and to books as it is possible to obtain, and in return therefor will obtain two gallery rooms which, if fine in their proportions, can nevertheless be made beautiful to the eye only by the surrender of much of the little book-space obtained by his plans. If these plans had been formulated fifty years ago one might understand the denseness of them, but in this day and generation it is unpardonable. Any architect taking the trouble to examine half a dozen of the new libraries could at least have learned "the-way-not-to-do-it." And if Mr. Flagg will take time merely to visit the Astor and the Lenox Libraries of this city, and see how absolutely unfitted they are to meet the demand of book storage and book-workers, we think a new light would break upon him, and he would abandon a system which to-day is almost universally discredited.

THE activity of the library profession hardly calls for comment, but occasionally some new phase of it is forced upon the attention of the JOURNAL, and it is tempted to notice it. Thus, in the last report of the American Historical Association (for 1891) in the "Bibliography of published writings of members" it is interesting to notice the number of books and articles reported by the librarians who are members. In addition

to their regular work nine librarians found time in that year to write thirty-seven essays and volumes, a number of which must have taken much time and labor to prepare; and this we presume is typical of nearly all the active librarians of today. Indeed many of our profession are far more widely known by their books than by their actual library work. But for *esprit de corps* one would be tempted to class Poole, Fletcher, Winsor, Thwaites, Foster, S. S. Green, and others among authors rather than among librarians. But we are hardly prepared to surrender the fair claim we have to a brotherhood with these.

To many of the profession the ability of a librarian to find time for outside work is a puzzle. Operating libraries no larger, if as large, many a library worker claims to have no time left from the management for outside labor; and we believe they speak truly. But this does not of necessity mean that the libraries suffer whose chiefs are doing other work as well, of course out of library time. The whole difference seems to be merely a matter of organization and detail. We have been into libraries so organized that no unusual demand seemed in the slightest degree to interrupt or affect the routine work, and on the contrary we have been into others where the call for a single book but little used was enough to disorganize almost the entire working of the library. There is no doubt that an indolent or slovenly chief is apt to produce a like corps of assistants, and the converse is equally true. Indeed, in library work, as in everything else nowadays, the problem is not to use the best elements for simple or routine work, but to do as much as is possible with cheap labor, and leave to the higher grades only the work which cannot be done by the lower. We do not use a race-horse to plough with. We can, but it is not economy; and while no comparison is intended, we think the simile fits and should be taken to heart by a good many of our profession.

THIS "Bibliography of the Published Writings of the Members of the American Historical Association for 1891," already alluded to, is, we confess, rather disappointing in its result. As we have noted in the JOURNAL from time to time, the plan as originally adopted was that, "with the approval and aid of our officers and members, it is planned each year to gather the year's work of our associates and issue it as a supplement to the main list. By so doing we hope to obtain from each author, while it is still fresh in mind, the fullest and most accurate details of his contributions, and so furnish our members with a list of the newest and latest

publications — perhaps the hardest division of the literature of a subject to obtain knowledge of. It is from these future annual supplements, therefore, that the compiler hopes the most, and these he believes may be made of great value to all publicists and scholars." In the present publication, which is the third of the series, the members seemed to have responded most satisfactorily, and so far as completeness goes it is the best yet printed; but there has been great carelessness in the inclusion of material, fully a quarter of the titles being of works published before the year given by the title, and the list even includes some published in 1892. The title is therefore a false and misleading one, and the purposes of the list are very largely defeated. The fault is doubly regrettable, for the labor involved in making a proper discrimination was of the very slightest, while the difference in value would be very great. Like the old story of the index, one man has saved a few hours' time, which will be paid for in the future by others a hundredfold.

THE transfer of the St. Louis Public Library from the school board to the city and its conversion from a subscription to a free library, for which Mr. Crunden has labored so perseveringly for so many years, seems now likely to be effected. The completion and occupation of the new building has turned people's thoughts to the library. A proposition is to be submitted at the April election setting aside for library support one-fifth of a mill on the taxes now collected, which is the largest amount that the law allows. The newspapers are eager in their arguments for the change.

CHICAGO, it is urged, thanks to the liberality of a couple of her millionaires, is to have three free libraries before long, and it will not do for St. Louis to remain behind Chicago, and indeed behind every other large city in the country. A tax of \$1 a year on every \$5000 owned by a citizen will not be an unbearable burden. At present the Public Library, not yet a Free Public Library, is supported in part by the School Fund, crippling the efficiency of the free school system. The present fee, though so small as to produce little revenue, is so large as to keep away from the library those who have most need of it. The funds of the library will create no new taxation, for the legal tax limit is already reached, but will simply divert part of the taxes now collected from being paid for the salaries of city officials, which are rapidly increasing. These and similar arguments will be urged till the election in April, and ought to produce the desired result.

THE MANUSCRIPT AGE.—I.

BY REUBEN B. POOLE, *Librarian of the New York Y. M. C. A. Library.*

"The hand that wrote doth moulder in the tomb,
The book abideth till the day of doom."

THIS is emphatically an age of books and book-making. In our self-congratulations at the achievements of the press we are too apt to forget our great indebtedness to the past. Our gratitude is due not only to the eminent names that have figured in the annals of ancient literature, but quite as much to those copyists who in cloisters and deserts, in libraries and palaces, protected and transcribed the works of authors, and transmitted them in safety to our time. The sentiment quoted above aptly describes the relation of the Manuscript Age to our own. I should perhaps say Manuscript Ages, for the period covered extends back to remote antiquity. As librarians, it may be profitable to turn for a brief time from the discussion of books and typewriters to codexes and calligraphers, and to note what the long-forgotten copyist has done for us, and how he did it. It is not my province to treat of inscriptions, nor of the origin of writing and alphabets. It may be remarked in passing, however, that writing was known at a very early date. Writing is mentioned in the Bible, first in Exodus 17:14, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book," *i.e.*, the account of the battle with the Amalekites, which occurred about 1500 years before the Christian Era. It is here referred to as an art well known. The *Prisse* papyrus, in the National Library of Paris, a moral treatise, is supposed to have been written about 2000 B.C.

Without considering this subject further we proceed to observe, first, the form of mss. The most ancient form was, perhaps, the *roll*. The wall paintings of Egypt represent rolls of papyrus, and to-day there are extant specimens in large numbers. The *Prisse* papyrus is the oldest known. Jeremiah (circa 600 B.C.) speaks frequently of the roll; *e.g.*, "Take the roll of a book and write therein," Jer. 36:2. The word roll, *megillah* in Hebrew, corresponded to the Latin *volumen*, from whence comes our word volume. The full expression for a book was a "roll of writing," or the "roll of a book," as used in the passage just quoted, and in Psalms 40:7, where, in the Revised Version, it is translated, "In the roll of the book," but in the A. V., "in the volume of the book." The reference is supposed to point to the Pentateuch. Darius is spoken of

as searching in the house of the rolls, the official library probably of the monarch. In Zechariah 5:1, we read of a flying roll, 20 cubits long and 10 cubits wide, seen in a vision. The roll was mounted on rollers and the projecting ends were ornamented. Small rolls were placed in cylinders. Large rolls were sometimes provided with cases, which served as a binding, and the binder's art was exercised by rich carvings on the metal case. An illustration from the Memoirs of the Palestine Exploration Fund represents a roll of the Samaritan Pentateuch in a carved silver case. This copy of the Pentateuch is in the Samaritan synagogue at Nablus, Palestine, the ancient Sychar. The Samaritan sect, which Dean Stanley has characterized as the oldest and smallest sect in the world, consisting of only about 200 persons, held this roll in great veneration, claiming that it was written by Abishua, the great-grandson of Aaron. Their claim needs proof. There are three rolls in the synagogue, and visitors are not shown the most important one, unless one's curiosity is backed up liberally by his purse.

I have a photograph of a Hebrew synagogue roll, now in the possession of the American Bible Society, which formerly belonged to a synagogue of Jews at Kai-fung-fu, China. Many centuries ago one of the emperors of China built a synagogue for the Jews in China, but in time their edifice crumbled into decay, their priests all died, their native tongue was forgotten, and their Hebrew rolls could no longer be read. In 1851 the London Missionary Society secured six of the eight mss. in possession of the congregation. The other two found their way to Peking and were offered for sale. Rev. Dr. Martin, the president of Tung Hong College, Peking, in 1868 brought them to this country, and one was placed in the library of the American Bible Society. The companion to this I saw in an auction-room in New York in April, 1891. It measured 141 feet 5 inches in length, 24½ inches in width. It was mounted on rollers, written on fine sheepskins, in large fine characters, without vowel points, the universal style of writing synagogue rolls. All rabbis must read without the help of vowels. The skins were stitched together. The roll, I learned, was sold for \$350 to a gentleman of Philadelphia. Its age is not known. At the

same sale another roll was offered, composed of 71 skins, over 137 feet long, wrapped in blue silk velvet, lined with cloth of gold, and mounted in an elegant case of rosewood.

Another form of the ancient ms. was the *tablet*, made of lead, ivory, wood, and perhaps other materials, smeared with a coat of colored wax. A stylus was used for writing on the wax, and the blunt end of the stylus was found useful for making any necessary erasures. These tablets when hinged together correspond to a modern book. They were used particularly for business purposes, for correspondence, and for legal documents. The word *codex*, which we apply to a manuscript volume, is derived from the name of these tablets, which were called *codices*, or books—*codex* originally meaning the trunk of a tree, and as tablets were made of wood and used as books, they assumed the name of the material from which they were made. As these tablets were so frequently used for law purposes, they gave origin to the word *code*. Tablet is mentioned by the Prophet Isaiah (8:1), Rev. Ver., "Take thee a great tablet, and write upon it with the pen of a man." The tablet was in common use among the Romans; its use survived till the 16th century, and even to-day the fisherwomen of Rouen note down their sales on tablets.

Greek manuscripts were in the form of books. The leaves were stitched together, and were of various sizes. The Hebrews have always retained the form of the roll for their synagogue Bibles, but private individuals have mss. in book form. Bricks were employed by the Assyrians for their writings. Cuneiform characters were impressed on the soft clay, and when this had hardened, the record was in a most permanent form. These brick volumes were catalogued. Sargon, who flourished about 2000 B.C., had a library, and his clay books were numbered. Whether he had delivery stations is not known. He doubtless employed some of his captives as (hard-) book-carriers. These storied bricks, like the potsherds of Egypt, are attracting the attention of eminent scholars.

The *material* used in early bookmaking will next claim our attention. The use of the skins of animals is of very great antiquity. Ancient writers mention the use of leather. Herodotus mentions that the Ionians called papyrus *diphthera* (leather). In Jeremiah 36 we read that the king cuts the roll which Jehudi is reading and casts it into the fire, and from this the inference has been drawn that the roll was made of leather, though if the material had been papyrus doubt-

less the knife would have been applied. There is said to be a leather ms. in the museum in Berlin, written in black and red hieratic characters, and ascribed to the 18th dynasty before the time of the exodus.

Josephus in writing of the copy of the Law which was carried to Egypt for the translation of the Septuagint Version of the Hebrew Bible, in the first or second century before Christ, says: "As the old men came in before Ptolemy with their presents, which the high priest had given them to bring to the king, and with the membranes (skins) upon which their laws were written in golden letters, he put questions to them concerning their books. The king admired the thinness of the membranes and the exactness of the junctures (so exactly were they connected one with another)." Josephus wrote in the first century of our era. Synagogue rolls to-day are written on leather, and the great care and sacredness with which the Jews have always regarded the Scriptures entitle us to believe that they have transmitted the custom from very remote times, if not from the time of the great lawgiver, Moses.

The skins of goats, sheep, and calves were used. *Codex Sinaiticus*, of the fourth century A.D., was written on the skins of antelopes. Skins were tanned soft and dyed red and yellow. They were stitched together in book form or in rolls, the roll being sometimes 140 or more feet in length.

The terms parchment and vellum are common expressions for leather prepared for writing purposes, and there is much confusion in their use, being employed often interchangeably. Originally vellum meant calf-skin, and parchment a material fabricated probably from the skins of different animals, as sheep and goats, the latter being prepared in lime and afterwards dressed and rubbed smooth. The "Britannica" says that vellum is employed now to describe almost any mediæval skin-book; that parchment has given place to vellum, and the former is now used for hard sheep-skins or other skins for law-engrossing. Larousse (*Grand Dict., velin*) says vellum is superfine parchment, smoother and more beautiful than parchment, and is made from the skins of calves. Parchment derived its name from Pergamum, a city of Mysia, in Asia Minor, where it was extensively manufactured by Eumenes II. (197-158 B.C.). The Ptolemies prohibited papyrus from being exported from Egypt, and this king to meet the exigency invented the fabrication of parchment. Isaac Tay-

lor in his "Transmission of Ancient Books" regards parchment as of much higher antiquity than the second century B.C., as it is mentioned by Herodotus and Ctesias.

Leaves of trees as a material for writing are of very ancient use. The leaves of the palm and the mallow were employed for writing and are used in the Orient to-day.

The inner bark of the linden or tell tree, called *byblos*, was in such general use that it gave the Greeks and Romans their word for book, *biblos*, bark, then book, whence the word *Bible*, the Book, and *liber*. *Biblos* was also used for papyrus by Herodotus.

No material was used so extensively by the ancients as papyrus. The commerce in this article was very large. It was the paper of remote times, and from it we derive our word paper. Papyrus grew abundantly in Egypt, and was found also in Syria and on the Euphrates. Notwithstanding the abundance of this product in the Nile Delta in former times, Dr. Charles S. Robinson in recent years, when in Egypt, tried to get a specimen of the plant, but was told that nothing of the kind could be found in all Egypt. Isaiah in prophesying of Egypt said: "The paper-reeds by the brooks . . . shall wither, be driven away, and be no more," and his prophecy has in this respect its fulfilment.

Papyrus was a reed growing in marshy places, had a tufted head, was triangular in shape, and grew to the height of six or more feet. It was used for various purposes, as boat-building, food, but principally for writing.

Papyrus was known by the Greek name of *chartes*, and its use in the New Testament, in John's Epistle (ii. 12), indicates that the N. T. autographs were written on this material, which were afterwards transcribed on skins, which had much more enduring qualities.

A false notion as to the structure of the papyrus plant has prevailed until recent times, except with botanists. It was said that paper was made from the inner bark of the plant, and perhaps for this reason Herodotus called it *biblos*, bark. The plant is not composed of several layers, but has a rind and a cellular pith (see article in *Litt. J.L.*, vol. iii., Nov., 1878, by Dr. Ezra Abbot). The method of fabricating it into paper was to cut the stem longitudinally into strips and lay them side by side on a board the width of a sheet; then another layer was placed over this, crosswise. The sheets were then placed in the Nile waters, where they became attached by the glutinous matter which exuded from the plant, or from some

cause not known. The sheets were then dried in the sun, pressed, and polished with ivory or a shell. The sheets were pasted together at the edges to form the ms. roll, usually about 20 in number. Sometimes these rolls were much larger. Dr. Robinson mentions one which he thought would probably measure when unrolled 140 or 150 feet. The Sage Library, of New Brunswick, rejoices in having among its treasures a roll of parts of the "Book of the Dead" which is 45 feet long. It was brought from Egypt.

Recent explorations in Egypt have unearthed vast numbers of papyri. They must be unrolled with the greatest care to preserve them from breaking into pieces. It was the custom to write only on one side of papyrus, while both sides of skins were used. The most ancient specimen of papyrus extant is the Prisse papyrus, about 2000 B.C., noted above. It derives its name from its former owner. The most important document of this kind is a roll 11 feet long, containing the orations of Hyperides, the Athenian orator, elegantly written by a skilled calligrapher. It is supposed to date from the first century B.C. The British Museum has it under its protection. Many papyri were found in the ruins of Herculaneum. Papyri are found in Egypt wrapped around mummies, and contain the ritual of the dead, poems, novels, etc. The recent discovery in Egypt of a papyrus book containing the Septuagint Version of the most of Zechariah and a part of Malachi is of great interest, though the document may not have great textual value. The character in which this was written and the absence of divisions between the words place it as early, if not earlier, than 300 A.D.

A material of a later date was paper. The Chinese used paper long before the Western nations did. Cotton paper (*charta bombycina*) was employed in Constantinople, a great literary centre, in the 13th century. Rag paper came into use in Europe in the 14th century. In the next century we find mss. with paper and vellum intermixed. The potsherds or earthenware of Egypt and the bricks and cylinders of Assyria took the places of papyrus and leather.

There is reason for gratitude that the sacred and classical writings of antiquity were not allowed to perish with the material on which many of them were originally written, but were copied by trained calligraphers on skins. Papyrus was cheaper and answered well for temporary purposes. Skins became scarce, as they were in demand for literary purposes, and from this scarcity arose the vandal custom of erasing old mss.

and writing on the same surface again. Such mss. were styled palimpsests (written again) or rescripts. In modern times the discovery was made that the original writing could be restored by the application of such chemicals as the prussiate of potash or the *tinctura Giobertina*. An example of this sort is the Codex Ephraemi, at Paris. This ms. originally contained part of the Bible, and over it was written the works of St. Ephraem, the Syrian. An illustration is given in Prof. Stowe's "History of the Bible." A famous example of a palimpsest ms. is the Codex Dublinensis, now in the University of Dublin. The original is assigned to the 6th century, with new writing of the 10th century.

This practice of erasing became so prevalent in the 14th and 15th centuries that the German emperors issued an order prohibiting notaries from using any parchment except it was "quite new."

There were degrees in the quality of vellum; thinness and whiteness were prime qualities. Mss. of the highest antiquity are usually written on the finest vellum, and this quality of the material is applied as one test of the date of a ms. Cicero, who had a magnificent library, says he had seen a copy of the Iliad written on a scroll of pergamena that went into a nutshell, so thin and delicate was its texture. One instrument employed for writing was a calamus, or reed, taken from the Nile. A stylus made of iron, brass, or ivory, with a blunt point, was also used, and was well adapted for writing on waxen tablets, while the reed was used for papyrus and leather. The quill assumed its supremacy in the 6th century. The inks in use in ancient times played no unimportant part in the calligrapher's art. We are indebted to-day, not to the copyist alone, for the faithful transmission of the treasures of former ages, but to the pigments he used as well.

The cuttle-fish is thought to have yielded the liquor from which ancient inks were made, but this is not certain. An opaque ink was used, which appears to have been made from the soot of lamps in which only the finest combustibles were burned. The coal of ivory and fine woods were burned. With the lamp-black were mixed acids and gums. The inks of to-day are mere dyes in comparison. These inks did not flow as freely as ours, but possessed a body and a color that many centuries have not obliterated. Red, blue, yellow, and purple colors were in use. Sometimes mss. were written wholly in red ink. Gold and silver pigments were in vogue, in

making *éditions de luxe* for persons of wealth and rank. The skins were sometimes dyed purple, as seen in the fac-simile of a recently discovered ms., the Codex Rosariensis. The letters here are silver.

Two years ago I saw a rich example of a purple codex. It was offered for sale in New York by Mr. Quaritch, of London. The ms. was the Golden Gospels of Henry VIII., written on purple vellum, in letters of gold. It was thought to have been written at Tours, about 750 A.D. It was formerly in the possession of Henry VIII.; afterwards it was owned by the Duke of Hamilton. The catalogue price was \$12,500. The Codex Argenteus, a Gothic version of the Gospels, a fragment, is the great treasure of the University of Upsala, Sweden. It is written in bold uncial letters of gold and silver, very regular, with the appearance of having been stamped on the purple vellum. This ms. is supposed to date from the fifth or sixth century, and was taken by the Swedes at the siege of Prague, in 1648.

Pigments of the precious metals were used so much that it created a business of itself. The use of various colors in mss. added to their beauty. First lines, headings, capitals, emphatic words, were made conspicuous by the use of red, cerulean, and green colored inks, and as special skill was required in their artistic application a particular class of skilled writers found employment in this branch of decoration. A study of ancient pigments reveals to an expert something of the age of a ms.

To secure the nice accuracy which is shown in the columns and lines of ancient mss. it was necessary for the transcriber to rule them vertically for the column, and horizontally for the lines. These rule-marks are seen in many mss. A bodkin or needle was employed to mark the lines, and it was not always necessary to rule both sides of the skin, as the impression was sometimes seen on the opposite side of the leather. In papyrus the grain guided the pen. The two layers of the papyrus are clearly visible even in fac-similes of ancient mss.

In closing what I have to say about materials I wish to call attention to an interesting fact in reference to the surface of skins. As we have said, both sides of skins were written on, the flesh side and the hair side. The flesh side presented the finest and the whitest surface. In arranging the skins for writing the flesh sides were brought together, and also the hair sides, these latter being coarser and more discolored.

We now pass to the *Style of Writing*.

Uncial letters were square capitals. Mss. in this character are termed uncial mss., while the others are called cursive. An uncial ms. fixes its date before the 10th century. They are the most highly valued on account of their age. The manner in which their codices are written shows that they are not the first draft of the author, but the work of a professional copyist. Words were written in the oldest Greek mss. continuously, with only occasional marks of punctuation and without accents. Codices Aleph and B of the 4th century now and then have stops at the top of words. In Latin as well as Greek palaeography we find these two forms of writing.

The cursive style of penmanship was doubtless first employed for business purposes. Its more rapid execution soon commended itself to copyists, who could multiply mss. faster by the running hand and inclined letters. The new style, however, introduced degeneracy; words were joined, contracted, combined in such a way as to lose their identity. In the 8th century

copyists introduced large rubricated letters as seen in mss. of that period. Both of the styles of writing spoken of will be found sometimes in the same ms. when annotations have been made by a later hand. We are able to exhibit these styles of writing, the earlier and the later, in the fac-similes of Codex Vaticanus, etc., of the 4th and 5th centuries. Codex Aleph or Sinaiticus, it may be observed, is written in four columns, and has the appearance, when opened, of a roll. Codex Vaticanus is written in three columns, and Codex Alexandrinus has but two. It is assigned to the 5th century.

The study of writing assists the critic in determining the age of a ms. It is to be remembered that early mss. were not dated and that their age is to be conjectured from such and like circumstances as we have named. About the 6th century a date can be approximated, and from this as a basis other dates are estimated by a study of all the concomitant circumstances. There were certain progressive changes from century to century which aid the scholar in his critical study.

LIBRARIES IN RUSSIA.

BY A. V. BABINE, *Cornell University Library.*

LITTLE is known of the old Russian libraries. In 1506 the Greek Maxime was surprised at the number of rare Greek books in the prince's palace library of Moscow. In the reign of Ivan the Terrible a Dorpat pastor, Watermann, found this library kept in two stone vaults, near the tsar's apartments, and consisting of Hebrew, Greek, and Latin books, all of which are supposed to have been destroyed by fire in 1611. All monasteries had libraries, which consisted mainly of religious and canonical works, which were frequently borrowed by private persons to be read at home. In the Solovetsky Monastery there was a *scriptorium*, where books were copied for sale. Of modern libraries that of the Trinity Monastery, near Moscow, is specially rich. It possesses 823 manuscript books, of which 400 belong to the sixteenth century, the epoch of the greatest development of monasticism in Russia. But the most notable libraries are those founded by the government. Of these, two deserve special attention: the library of the Academy of Sciences and the Imperial Public Library in St. Petersburg. Books taken by the Russian armies from the Baltic provinces at the beginning of the eighteenth century formed the foundation of the first. The Imperial Library was the result of the

Russian capture of Warsaw. Count Joseph Zalussky, bishop of Kiev, spent forty-three years collecting a rich library of 300,000 volumes and 10,000 manuscripts, devoting all his wealth to the purchase of books. His brother Andrew further enriched the library with volumes taken from the museum of the Polish king, John III. In 1747 Joseph Zalussky opened the library to the public, and in 1761 bequeathed it to a college of Jesuits in Warsaw. Six years later (1767) Zalussky was arrested and his library removed to St. Petersburg. The transfer took place in bad weather and over poor roads, so that many books were injured and many lost in transit. When the library reached St. Petersburg it numbered 262,640 volumes and 24,500 *estampes*. Many had been stolen during the journey, and years later there were to be found in Poland books bearing the signature of Zalussky.

To the Imperial Library Alexander I. added, in 1805, the Dubrovsky collection, which contained examples of the art of Europe from the fourth century to the invention of printing, specimens of Roman miniature painting down to the school of Raphael, and an immense store of memoirs, letters, and autographs (8000 of the latter) of European monarchs and of famous

statesmen and scholars. Dubrovsky gathered his collection during a twenty-five years' residence in Paris, Rome, Madrid, and other large cities of Europe. He acquired many during the French revolution, when he systematically accompanied the revolutionist mobs in their raids, and succeeded in saving from their fury numbers of valuable volumes and documents.

Difficult as was the task of organizing and arranging the library it was intended early in 1812 to throw it open to the public. But when Moscow was taken by Napoleon, Alexander, remembering how the treasures of Italy had been treated by the French conqueror, ordered the library to be removed to the inhospitable forests of the north. 150,000 of the rarest books and manuscripts were packed in large boxes and sent in a barge to Petrozavodsk; but the danger passed away, the books were returned, and the library was opened on the 2d of January, 1814.

In 1860 the present reading-room, accommodating 200 persons, was built. An immense reservoir on the roof of the library affords safety in case of fire, and the several stock-rooms are separated by iron doors for the same reason. Precautions are taken against the purloining of books. Each visitor receives a blank from an attendant, on which are written down the titles of the books drawn. On their return an assistant stamps the blank, and no visitor is allowed to leave the rooms without a stamped ticket. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; the yearly number of permanent readers is about 12,000, and the total number of visitors about 120,000.

The Imperial Library possesses many palimpsests, Greek manuscripts of the second century, autographs of Russian rulers, writers, and famous men, besides Slavonian, Latin, French, and Oriental manuscripts. Among its chief treasures are the Sinai Bible, the Epistle of Augustine to Simplician on the Christian doctrine, his "De Civitate Dei," the correspondence of Phillip II. of Spain and Isabella, of Mary Stuart and of Marie Antoinette. Side by side, in a glass case, lie Napoleon's order appointing Murat general-governor of Moscow in 1812, and (Time's revenge!) Alexander I.'s order appointing Osten-Sachsen general-governor of Paris in 1814. The library is constantly growing, about 25,000 volumes being added every year. In income, size, and number of readers it vastly surpasses all private libraries in Russia, the largest of which does not exceed 25,000 volumes.

In later years the village schools began to open libraries for limited circles of readers. Small li-

braries were successfully maintained in cities and the demand for good reading steadily increased among the people. Doubtless were it not for the constant suspicions and restrictions of the government the progressive spirit of this century would have reached many a peasant thirsty for knowledge but unable to quench that thirst. To Russian peasants a library is as yet a novelty. It is not very long since they were admitted to the elementary training of a village school. Few can read and fewer have leisure for reading. The literary and scientific books, which are supplied to all Russia almost exclusively by St. Petersburg and Moscow, are inaccessible to the peasantry on account of price and style. The desire for religious books among the older peasants and for narratives and stories among the younger created the "bark-box" literature with which Moscow supplies the Russian peasantry. The name comes from the bark-boxes in which the books and pictures are taken to market by dealers and petty retailers. Lives of saints, folktales, trashy novels, accounts of the exploits of Russian heroes in wars against the Turks, are sold at from two to fifteen cents apiece. This delectable literature is embellished with coarse wood-cuts smeared with blots of paint fantastically distributed over the surface of the picture, coloring horses green and mice violet and yellow. These are the productions of literature and art offered to about 97 per cent. of the Russian people. Of late village teachers have tried to introduce the peasants to Russian classics, and have discovered to their surprise that they appreciated the masterpieces of national literature and criticised artificial productions or those untrue to nature. Men of letters, teachers, professors, began to write books for the people. A new publishing firm was started in St. Petersburg and extended to Moscow, the centre where the "bark-box" books were manufactured, and peasants had a chance to get better books at low prices. The "bark-box" manufacturers were obliged to raise the standard of their merchandise, and the people's reading is improving from year to year.

Books reach the peasants in various ways. In 1885 there were only 1543 book-stores in Russia, all of them in cities and towns. The necessity of having a printed catalogue prevents many people from keeping book-stores; and petty tradesmen, often with a capital not exceeding three dollars, go from village to village with their inexpensive wares. On market-days they appear in the market-places with their bark-boxes

and pile the goods on the ground or go with them through the crowds. Sometimes also the village school libraries sell books. The Russian Bible Society has since 1863 sent its agents all over Russia, even to the most inaccessible regions of Siberia, with cheap copies of the Bible, Gospels, etc. Of the extent of the book trade one may judge from the fact that the largest firm (Sitin, Moscow) manufactures yearly about ten million copies of various books, one million copies of religious pictures, and 850,000 pictures of a secular character, the wholesale price of the books

ranging upward from 75 cents a hundred and that of the pictures from 25 cents a hundred.

Cheap editions of Pushkin's and Lermontov's prose works meet with favor from the people, who cannot yet appreciate their verse. With the increase of schools the demand for books grows yearly, and the steps which the educated classes have lately taken towards supplying the people with literature should do much to hasten the day when the Russian peasantry will have acquired a taste for literature and have recovered from its long intellectual famine.

THE NEW YORK CITY HALL AND THE TILDEN LIBRARY.

From the New York Tribune.

WHEN in Rome 2000 years ago it was proposed by a senator to tear down the only remaining gate on the Palatine Hill, the citizens rose with indignation and cried "for shame!" This gate, though primitive and rude, was endeared to the Roman people by innumerable associations; it was a gate which commemorated and marked in one direction the boundary of the walls of the ancient city—as a dumb monitor it reminded them of the past, and by comparison spoke to them of the possibilities of the future. New York's important landmark, an architectural jewel, is in danger of being destroyed to make way for a larger, though not more beautiful, structure. The City Hall, as the Roman gate, commemorates the growth of the city—its rise and progress among a great sisterhood of cities. It is likewise a monitor of the past, an index of the future, and upon its corner-stones and within its classic halls people now read the history of a great city. The municipal building commissioners are pushing forward their plans for the erection of a new building on the site of the old City Hall, with little regard as to its fate. A bill is now before the legislature at Albany providing for its removal and re-erection on another site yet to be determined. An attempt is being made to preserve it with different surroundings, so that it may not become only a memory.

One of the several plans proposed for the preservation of the City Hall is that it be removed to the site of the old reservoir on Murray Hill, and there re-erected in such a manner as to adapt it to the uses of the Tilden Library. With this idea in mind, Ernest Flagg, the architect of the new Corcoran Art Gallery at Washington, has made a series of designs showing the appearance of the structure after re-erection on the projected site. With reference to the changes proposed Mr. Flagg makes the following comment:

"The principal changes necessary to adapt the building to the uses of a library would be the wings. There it is proposed to take out the second-story beams and thus convert the wings

into great halls extending through the two principal stories. These would be divided into tiers of alcoves, each having a window at the end, and to be provided with a table where students could pursue their studies. The vestibule rotunda, with its elegant staircase, is really the most beautiful I have ever seen; the main corridor, the historic governor's room, and the dome all would remain unchanged." So much for the interior.

The exterior changes which Mr. Flagg proposes are principally in giving the wings greater depth in order that they may present a unity of design and afford greater space for the storing of books and replacing the old wooden cupola with a marble one more in proportion to the size of the building and of greater artistic merit. The front façade will remain unchanged, while the façades of the wings will simply be broadened. If constructed on the lines proposed the alcoves will have a capacity of nearly 400,000 volumes. When it is considered that this is about the number of volumes in the Congressional Library, which it has taken several decades to accumulate, it will be readily seen that the capacity of the building will be sufficient for many years to come.

"The chief defect," said Mr. Flagg, "of the City Hall as it stands is its want of height, a defect which doubtless did not appear when it was originally erected. Since that time it has been surrounded with tall structures which dwarf it, and the same conditions apply to the proposed site."

This defect the architect proposes to remedy by using the old reservoir's material, so conveniently at hand, in the construction of two beautiful terraces, in about the middle of the larger one of which the structure is to be erected. Those who have seen the garden front at Versailles, the Campodoglio at Rome, or the grand terrace of the National Capitol will readily imagine what a beautiful effect could thus be produced. Three terraces approached by broad flights of steps and adorned with balustrades, fountains, parterres, flowers, shrubs and green

lawns, would give to the city one of its greatest attractions and novelties.

These changes, if made in accordance with the proposed designs, would be little more than a return, it is said, to the plans and ideas of the original architect, John McComb, Jr., whose journals and truncated drawings Edward S. Wilde, of Newark, preserves as an heirloom in his family.

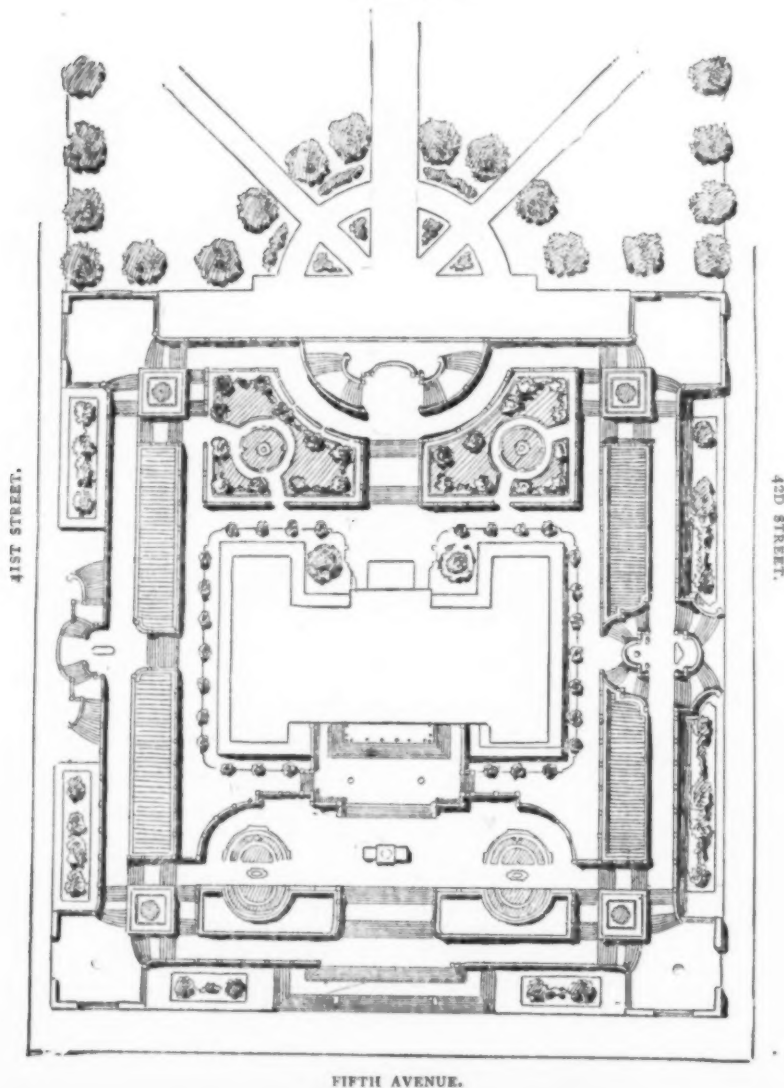
On this subject John Bigelow has written the following letter to Percival Farquhar, at Albany:

"I perceive that the bill before the legislature

for the removal and re-erection of the old City Hall concludes with the following provision:

'Said board of commissioners may contract for the removal of said building without public letting and upon such terms, provisions, and agreements as they may determine, with any person, persons, or corporation which may be selected by said board for that purpose, and who shall agree to re-erect and maintain said building upon some suitable site within said city, owned by said private corporation, in such manner that when so re-erected said building shall

BRYANT PARK.





VIEW OF PROPOSED TILDEN LIBRARY.

continue to present the same external appearance as it had prior to its removal.

"The restrictions imposed by this clause of the bill, I fear, will defeat the purpose contemplated by its framers, of having the old City Hall re-erected elsewhere for some public use.

"The idea that any person or corporation could be found to agree to take the City Hall down and re-erect it anywhere, unless it were for a factory or some commercial use, seems to me rather chimerical; but that any party should agree in advance to re-erect it without having control of the men who take it down, seems yet more chimerical, for the value of such of the material as would be worth carrying away for such a purpose would depend entirely upon the way it was handled. To require the party taking the contract not only to re-erect the building upon such conditions, but to furnish the site for it also, amounts to little less than requiring that it shall not be re-erected at all, which is hardly consistent with what purports to be the purpose of the framers of the bill; a purpose little likely to be attained, I apprehend, unless the city is armed with the power to take down, remove, and re-erect the structure on its own property and at its own expense. Even if a person could be found reckless enough to make such an agreement, would it be prudent or becoming for this city to take the risk of deputing such a work to persons who would have only a secondary interest in studying the desires and expectations of the public?

"Your bill also required that the re-erected structure shall present the same external appearance as it presents at present.

"For reasons which I hope will commend themselves to yourself and to your colleagues in the legislature, I venture to suggest that the discretionary powers of the city authorities be enlarged, so far at least as to relieve them from some of the strains of these restrictions.

"You are aware, I presume, that the trustees of the Tilden Trust have signified to the municipal authorities their readiness to equip and operate a public library, if the City Hall, when removed, should be re-erected on the site of the reservoir in Bryant Park, and appropriated to their use; a disposition of it which, far more than any other, seems to have commended itself to public favor. Would it not be wise to give to our municipal authorities the power which under this bill they will lack, to make such a disposition of it, should they ultimately conclude that it was their duty to do so?

"Wherever the City Hall is removed, it would be simply impossible to make such a building, already nearly a century old, present the same external appearance again that it had prior to its removal. But if it were possible, would it not in this case be manifestly unwise to attempt it?

"In re-erecting the City Hall for any purpose whatever there are certain changes, even in its external appearance, the propriety of which can hardly admit of debate.

"From motives of economy which had the more weight with our Conscript Fathers of 1803, from the fact that the rear of the City Hall in that day looked out upon a wilderness, they shortened the ends or wings as laid down on the

architect's plans in such a way as not only to seriously diminish the capacity but to derange the proportions of the edifice. By this reduction the cupola or dome, if erected over the rotunda, for which it was designed, would not have appeared to be in the centre of the building when seen from either end. This compelled the architect to put the cupola in front instead of over the rotunda, and to support it upon the walls of the much narrower corridor, in which position the dome could not be made large enough to be in scale with the design. It would be a pity, not to say a crime, to perpetuate this defect, which could now be so conveniently remedied, and which would so greatly improve the appearance of the structure. There is the less excuse for re-erecting the present cupola, inasmuch as it is frail and modern, as well as hideous, having been constructed of wood to replace the original cupola, which was burned during the celebration of the laying of the Atlantic cable in 1858. This cupola, therefore, has not only no historic or artistic claim to reproduction, but, after more than thirty years to exposure to the weather it would be idle to seek any excuse whatever for trying to perpetuate it.

"Neither ought the idea to be seriously entertained of reproducing the freestone rear walls of the old City Hall, recently painted white. If they reappear on the reservoir site they will front toward the park. It is necessary to say a word more to show that the provision of your bill that required the City Hall when removed to present the same external appearance as it has at present is, to say the least, an improvident one.

"To adapt the City Hall to the purpose of a library the only structural changes of consequence that would be required would be to lengthen the wings in accordance with the original plan, thus bringing the cupola where it belongs, over the dome, and then convert these wings into stack-rooms for books. This could be easily and economically done by putting in four tiers of alcoves one above the other, with a window to each. The main and only important features of the interior of the present plan, such as the vestibule rotunda, the main corridor, the historic Governor's room, and the dome as originally adapted to the edifice, could be all retained.

"The chief artistic defect of the City Hall as it now stands is the lack of height. This can be conveniently remedied in Bryant Park by putting the building on a terrace, for which the reservoir should furnish abundant material, and by lifting the present half-buried basement out of the ground. This arrangement would give the City Hall a more imposing appearance than it has ever had; it would render both the basement and the cellar under it (for the digging of which it will only be necessary to draw off the water) available for library purposes, for both would in that case be amply supplied with air and light, and it would be equivalent to adding two entire stories to the available capacity of the building. The present basement would then be admirably adapted for reading-rooms, distributing-rooms and lecture-rooms; they would be convenient of

access from the streets and might be used without disturbing students in the alcoves above or making the library proper unnecessarily a thoroughfare.

"The lecture-rooms and auditoriums will run down into the sub-basement or cellar as in the Cooper Union, which would give special value to the room they occupied. The rest of the sub-basement could be used as a bindery and for receiving, cleaning, and cataloguing books, for heating and lighting apparatus, for storage, safes, etc.

"With these alterations, which I think the city authorities should have a discretionary power to make, the City Hall would easily accommodate from 400,000 to 500,000 volumes. If put upon the site of the reservoir it would utilize a very large proportion, probably all of the material of that structure for foundations, inside walls, arches, lining, terraces, etc., and thereby save the city not only the expense of removing this material, but the expense also of providing such material in case the city had to re-erect the City Hall elsewhere.

"In view of all these facts, I take the liberty of suggesting that you make an effort to have these bills so amended as to give the city authorities the power to deal with this City Hall problem as, upon due inquiry, shall appear to be most in harmony with an enlightened public sentiment.

"JOHN BIGELOW."

THE COLLECTION OF NEWSPAPERS AND SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS.

THIS most difficult and patience-tiring department of library work is considered at some length in the reports of the Minnesota Historical Society Library and of the St. Louis Mercantile Library.

"Our newspaper department," say the trustees of the former library, "has grown with surprising rapidity since our last report. It has attained proportions that give us pride and satisfaction. If this society had never done any other work than collect our remarkable library of newspapers, it would have entitled those who achieved it to the everlasting gratitude of the people of the State, and repaid the latter for every cent of its outlay. There are but few collections of newspapers in the Union which are larger and more valuable than ours, and certainly none where more care and attention are bestowed on the collection and preservation of the issues of the press. The amount of labor which has to be spent on this department would hardly be understood by any one except one who has had some experience in that work. The flimsy nature of the paper used by newspapers nowadays has been referred to in our previous reports. Its quality is steadily deteriorating, and a considerable proportion of the newspapers which we take reach us in a very dilapidated state, being torn, and some very badly so. All these must be very carefully repaired with transparent paper, and this, where there are so many, consumes a great deal of time. Then many of the papers, especially the large dailies, which consist of several leaves, reach us badly

registered, so that if bound in that shape, the edges of the printed matter would often be cut away. They have to be taken apart, often by saturating the paste, straightened out, and repasted and refolded. At regular intervals they are despatched to the bindery. On the return from the binder each volume must be carefully examined to see whether the papers are all fastened securely, and arranged in the proper chronological order.

"All libraries have had reason to complain of the mutilating of newspaper files by persons using them. This class of books seems to be exposed to that kind of mutilation more than any other. At one of our meetings not long ago a member gave an account of the destruction, by a person who was interested in destroying the evidence contained in a newspaper advertisement which affected the title of valuable property, of every copy of that advertisement in all the files of the paper containing it. Our own file was one which suffered from this shameful plot. Other means, more dishonorable, are resorted to, to accomplish the same end. Not long ago, a person offered our librarian a bribe of \$50 if he would turn his back a moment and not see the person tear from a newspaper volume a leaf containing an article which he wished to obliterate.

"One of the departments of our work which requires more time and exactness than any other is that of collecting serials—that is, the annual reports of bodies, societies, or corporations, and all other regular publications which are issued from the press at stated intervals. The importance and value of this portion of our collections is a sufficient justification for the labor laid out on it. The vast number of reports of the innumerable boards, commissions, bureaus, societies, secret orders, institutions of learning and science, all of which are so valuable and so almost impossible to get after some time has elapsed from their publication, renders necessary vigilant and prompt systems for collecting them at the time of their issue. The steps which our librarian takes to hunt up copies, and the disappointments experienced, would in some cases make an interesting story, which but few, except those who had tried the difficult task of searching for old pamphlets, could realize fully. Sometimes we are appalled by the reflection that, after all our persistent efforts to gather serials, we get such a disappointing proportion of the great list that we seek for. The only way in which we can gather in these transient waifs of the printer's art is to beg them from everybody who has them and who can be persuaded to send them to us. To this end postal-card requests for the needed pamphlet are sent out annually, and from this source we are building up our truly valuable department of serials. There are but few people who, on being politely asked for such a favor, will not respond in the affirmative; and thus, by our 'keeping everlastingly at it,' we are accumulating in our library a wealth of this material which, one day, will be of incredible value, simply because we have had the foresight to gather and preserve these perishable little publications,

which undoubtedly no other person and no other library has taken the care to do.

"The 'eternal vigilance' which is the 'price of liberty' is also the price of getting our collections complete. Hunting for missing numbers of serials is often a very vexatious and fruitless task. The letters written, the visits to persons, the searches in garrets or closets, and 'begging' requests, in season and out of season, are a part of the history of almost every pamphlet gained to our store. Securing missing numbers, especially the older ones, is vexation and vanity of spirit oftentimes. Sometimes this search would be pursued for years until victory was won, and the fugitive pamphlet was at last fitted in its niche. Sometimes the effort to fill a desperately incomplete set is much like the story of the man who took a bung-hole to a cooper and desired to have a barrel made around it."

Mr. Kephart, of the St. Louis Library, speaks as follows of the fine collection of serials in his charge:

"Our library now possesses one of the best collections of government publications in the West. The intrinsic value of these has been sadly underrated in the past. Until recently their distribution has been haphazard and intermittent, and so little pains was taken in former years to preserve them that even the United States government itself has not a complete set of its own publications. To some extent this carelessness was due to ignorance of the contents of most of the volumes, partly excusable from the lack of proper indexes, and to the fact that continuous sets rarely fell into the same hands.

"As a matter of fact, it may be stated broadly that the scholarly research into the political and social development of our country is impossible without access to the publications of the central government, and there is scarcely a science or art on which material invaluable to the specialist does not exist somewhere in the same labyrinth. The recent publication of catalogues and indexes to public documents has stimulated the demand for them; but, unfortunately, the long neglect to preserve the documents has made many of them practically unobtainable.

"If the case is bad with respect to the publications of the Federal government it is still worse with those of the various States and municipalities. More than one State department is paying good prices to second-hand booksellers for copies of its own reports. My attention has frequently been called to the poverty of our shelves in works of this nature. The geological reports of the different States are asked for by geologists, miners, and engineers; the agricultural reports are wanted by entomologists and chemists; physicians and others desire the publications of the State boards of health; students of political and social problems cannot work to advantage without the State reports on labor statistics and charities; and these are but a few examples out of many that might be cited of the every-day usefulness of a class of works which, at one time or other, might have been had for the asking."

LOCAL DELIVERIES AND LIBRARY INFLUENCE.

In the report of the trustees of the Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library, the question is raised whether a system of local deliveries, is not, in a degree, less directly beneficial to the public than is generally supposed. It is claimed that one person visiting the library, there looking over and coming in contact with the books and magazines, should receive more direct benefit than two who chose their book numbers from catalogs and left their cards at the nearest branch.

"We may be said now," say the trustees, "to reach all portions of the city by our system of local deliveries. Our whole policy should be to give every possible facility through local deliveries, but always to keep in view the fact that these deliveries, by the very nature of the case, afford an imperfect substitute for the personal use of the main library."

The influence of the library upon children is also touched upon:

"Visitors to the library are often misled in their impressions by coming in just after the schools are dismissed and finding so large a proportion of children as quite to outnumber the adults. If they came in at other hours of the day it would seem quite otherwise, although it must be remembered, even then, that many parents send their children for the books which the parents read. So far as the real demands of the children are concerned, the introduction of a special revolving case for them has made a great difference. There are multitudes of boys, for instance, who see no books at home, and whose one literary yearning is for an indefinite supply of some particular author. After they have had, on a few successive days, the painful experience of applying for book after book by their favorite author and finding every book to be out, it is easy for the observant librarian to tempt them inside the railing and show them the revolving case in which there are dozens of books equally interesting, although by authors whose very names are unknown to them. Nor are these necessarily story-books, for there are many books of adventure and travel which prove as fascinating, and have to be duplicated as much for the library as any story-book. The boy thus learns the lesson that there are many books by many authors, and on many subjects; and the mere process of selecting a single book for himself may do more for him than having half a dozen prescribed by others. However it may be elsewhere, it is perfectly sure in a library that the main work must be done by drawing, not by driving."

The chief demand for German in the Cambridge Library "is in the scientific direction, and it is rather a disappointment to find the literary use of German to be as yet so small among our readers. On the other hand the demand for French books is more literary than scientific; and the writings of the ablest French novelists, as Victor Hugo, Balzac, and Daudet, are in constant demand. There is a large and somewhat uneducated French-Canadian population in Cambridge which we have yet scarcely reached. Our efforts to

reach our Swedish fellow-citizens are beginning to succeed after a year or two of discouragement, and we are planning to make additional purchases for their benefit.

"The one class of our citizens which we find the hardest to reach is the very class at which we have aimed most sedulously from the beginning; namely, the intelligent young mechanics needing technical instruction. From the very time of the removal of the library we have taken pains to provide technical books for this class, and for the last two winters have provided a special expert adviser, one evening in the week—the fact being widely advertised last winter through our large manufacturing establishments. We have had the hearty co-operation of some large employers and of others possessing great influence with the class at which we aim. We know that in other places, as in Worcester, great use is made of the public library by this very class for technical instruction. Possibly we may find it well at some period to establish a branch library, in the Lower Port, with the express object of reaching this class. As it is, we have reached very thoroughly the schools and the homes of Cambridge; we have reached the literary and artistic clubs, and we seem to possess the confidence of the churches, without exception; but the machine-shops we do not yet reach."

BINDINGS IN LIBRARIES.

LIBRARIAN HORACE KEPHART, in the 47th annual report of the St. Louis Mercantile Library, makes an interesting contribution to the literature of binding deterioration. He says:

"Duodecimos and smaller books are mostly bound in half leather with tight backs. Other books are bound either in half morocco or canvas. We had melancholy evidence on our shelves that leather bindings should be used as sparingly as possible in our library. We have several thousand volumes which were once in substantial bindings but have simply dropped to pieces, not from excessive handling but from chemical change. To some extent this is probably due to the fact that gas was used in the old library building, and that many books were shelved near the ceiling in a stratum of hot air. It is also true that genuine morocco is unobtainable in St. Louis, the leather going by that name being an imitation, the so-called 'American morocco,' which is not made from goat-skins. Neither of these facts, however, nor both combined, will account for the excessive deterioration which is still going on in our leather bindings. In our new building we use electric lights exclusively, and the books are shelved within arm's-reach. Moreover, the decay is only a little less rapid in genuine morocco leather than in the imitation. One has only to examine the rows of British Patent Specifications to see that some agency is at work more destructive than any yet mentioned. Some of these specifications, bound in the best of English morocco, which were placed in the library as late as 1888, are already hard and dry to the touch as though the oil had been roasted out of them in an oven.

"There can be no question but that the smoke nuisance is responsible for this deterioration. It is not the carbon of the soot, but some other chemical agency accompanying it, that does the mischief. Every kind of leather is affected, call no more than morocco, if indeed as much, owing to its close-grained structure. Cloth is not injured, nor is canvas. The latter material we are now using almost exclusively for periodicals, and very largely for other classes of books, octavos and upwards. It will outwear any leather, is cheaper, and is quite neat when finished with a red leather label. The only objection to it is that it soils easily, on account of its coarse texture. Only hempen or linen canvas is used, as cotton duck soon wears fuzzy."

POPULAR BOOKS IN LIBRARIES.

THE preferences of public library readers in respect to books and authors is discussed at some length in the recent report of the Detroit Public Library. The following summarizes the statements made:

"First as to the authors who are no longer in demand, and in this list is Rider Haggard, who only a few years ago was all the vogue; Robert Louis Stevenson has met nearly the same fate; there is some demand for the "Wrecker," his latest work. "Looking Backward" has apparently sent Bellamy to the rear, for no one ever asks for him now. Mrs. Humphry Ward, who shone like a meteor after the publication of "Robert Elsmere," has gone to rest with "David Grieve." Kipling, the erratic and irrepressible Anglo-Indian, is not in the running. Mary J. Holmes, Mrs. Southworth, Ouida, and Agnes Fleming are on the dropped list here with a very large number, and their constituency is not growing. The prolific and versatile Balzac has had his day, and it appears to be past.

"The writers in great demand are J. M. Barrie, whose "Little Minister" is all the vogue. Mme. Carey is another great favorite, as is also Miss Alcott and Hawthorne, and "Uncle Tom's Cabin" maintains a perennial popularity. Shakespeare is extensively called for, largely as a result of the university extension course, where the bard is a subject of study. Lew Wallace's "Ben Hur" is immensely popular, and there are 25 copies of this work in the public library to meet the demand. The works that are in steady use are those of Sir Walter Scott, Charles Dickens, William Black, George Eliot, Thackeray, George Ebers, E. P. Roe, J. Fenimore Cooper, Mrs. Craik, Jules Verne, Oliver Optic, Mrs. Burnett, Louise Alcott, G. A. Henty, Alexander Dumas, Charles Lever, J. G. Holland, Mrs. Oliphant, Charlotte Brontë, Marion Crawford, Castlemont, Alger, J. T. Trowbridge, W. D. Howells, Stedman, Frank Stockton, Mark Twain, Henry James, Bret Harte, Besant, Hardy, Goldsmith, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Washington Irving, Thoreau, Longfellow, Lowell, Wordsworth, Milton, Moore, Robert Browning, Shelley, Byron, Tennyson, Chas. Dudley Warner, W. C. Bryant, T. B. Aldrich; and for fairy tales Andersen and Grimm, and Isabella Alden for juvenile stories. Ruskin,

Bacon, Emerson, Bryce's "American Commonwealth," Prescott's "Conquest of Mexico," Parkman's Works, and classics like "Meditations" of Marcus Aurelius, "Discourses" of Epictetus, and Homer's "Iliad," Pope's or Bryant's translation, are much in vogue.

"Among the religious works commonly called for are Drummond's "Natural Law in the Spiritual World," Spurgeon's sermons and life, Dr. Pierson's "Divine Art of Preaching," the "Heart of the Gospel," and especially his work on missions; Thomas à Kempis, Jeremy Taylor, Mrs. Havergal, a writer of devotional works; Dr. Briggs' writings; Dr. A. B. Bruce's "Training of the Twelve;" Dr. Phillips Brooks, Canon Farrar very largely; Rev. J. Thain Davidson's book for young men, "How to Succeed;" Andrew Murray's "Abide in Christ," Bishop Hurst's "Indika," being a work on the manners and customs of the people of India.

"John Fiske's "Discovery of America" and his "Critical Periods in American History" are both in wide demand, Columbus being now prominently before the American people. In fact, all of Mr. Fiske's writings are very popular."

BOOKS STOLEN FROM NEW YORK LIBRARIES.

ON the afternoon of March 4 Theodor Olynthus Douglas, a young Greek student and writer, was arrested in New York City for stealing books from the Astor Library and the library of Columbia College. The thefts were discovered by a mere accident. Columbia College employs a man to frequent book-stores and auction-rooms on the lookout for valuable old volumes. This man several days before had reported to George H. Baker, the college librarian, that five of the costliest volumes in the Columbia Library were exposed for sale in Bangs' auction-rooms on Broadway. Mr. Baker on investigation found that the books were missing, and the matter was reported, by order of President Seth Low, to Inspector McLaughlin, who detailed detectives to investigate the case. At the auction-rooms it was learned that the volumes had been purchased from Alfred J. Bowden, of Mitchell's, 830 Broadway. Mr. Bowden, when questioned, explained that he had purchased three of the books from Douglas, and the remaining two from W. E. Benjamin, 751 Broadway, who said he had bought them from Douglas. The title-pages, bearing the library stamp, had been cut. Dodd, Mead & Co. had also bought an old history of New York which came from the Astor Library. When Douglas was arrested he had under his arms two volumes of a "Journal of a Voyage to North America, Undertaken by Order of the French King," by Paul de Charlevoix, 1761. They had been stolen from the Astor Library. On reaching his rooms at the Alpine, 55 W. 33d St., the police found 30 books from the Astor Library and 113 volumes from the Columbia College Library. There were a complete set of Ben Jonson, two parchment-covered Spensers, and an old set of "Plutarch's Lives." The detectives also learned that the thief had sold eight books from

the Astor Library to Woodward, of 56 Nassau Street, for \$103. He had taken an Ovid and a Zarate from the Astor Library and sold them to Librarian Baker, of Columbia College, for \$80. Douglas had also sold to book dealers other than those mentioned large numbers of valuable books which he had stolen.

The prisoner is a native of Greece, 25 years old. He lost his parents when a child and was adopted by an American, with whom he lived near Trenton, N. J., until 1884, when he studied for 3 or 4 years at Rome. He returned to America and for 3 years studied at Yale College, but did not graduate. In the spring of 1892 he went again to Rome, whence he returned to this city in October last. Representing himself as a student of archaeology he engaged apartments at the Alpine, and introduced himself at the two libraries not only as a student but as private secretary for J. C. Pumpelly, a well-known member of the Union League Club and the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. He claimed to have been engaged in literary work, and is said to have written scientific and historical articles for *The Antiquarian*, *Lippincott's*, *Harper's*, *The Century*, and other magazines.

Douglas was arraigned in Jefferson Market Police Court on the morning of March 7. The charge against him was made by Oscar Bierstadt, assistant librarian of the Astor Library. He waived examination and was held for trial in default of \$5000 bail. His stealings are estimated at over \$2000.

FOR A PRIZE LIST OF POPULAR LIBRARY BOOKS.

WITH the view of obtaining a reliable consensus of opinion as to the 150 most popular library books, Tait, Sons & Co., publishers, 31 Union Square, N., New York City, offer a complete set of their *Rugby Edition*, a standard illustrated series, comprising 150 selected titles, as a premium to the librarian furnishing a list containing the largest number of titles, which an analysis of the returns from 500 of the leading librarians of this country, who have been asked to compete, shall show to be the most popular. A further premium of 100 titles is offered as a second prize. The premiums are for the librarians personally, the titles preferred to be selected from the *Rugby Edition* by the successful competitor. Works of which the copyright is still in existence are excluded from the competition, as are also theological, scientific, historical, and poetical works.

Intending competitors are requested as a condition of admission to the competition to notify the publishers by card of their intention to compete, and all lists must be received not later than Monday, April 3. Librarians are urged to send in their lists with as little delay as possible.

Each premium volume will be suitably inscribed in a way to commemorate the occasion, and the name of the successful competitor will be published in any 3 newspapers which he or she may designate. A copy of the successful list will also be sent to each librarian requesting it, as a guide to the popular taste.

State Library Associations.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE association met in the library of the Connecticut Historical Society in Hartford, Feb. 22. On account of the severe storm only 22 persons were present. President Van Name in his opening address congratulated Hartford on its new libraries, alluded to the library bill now ready to go before the legislature, and spoke of the working of the international copyright act and the necessity of revising the present copyright law. The Rev. W. De Loss Love made a short speech of welcome for the Historical Society, referring to the relations between schools, public libraries and historical collections, the difference between the old and new style librarian, and the duty of educated men to use every means of interesting the reading public in University Extension, Chautauqua, and other societies cultivating children's taste for history, and relieving libraries of an excessive demand for novels.

The president, Mr. Van Name, explained the bill for a State library commission.

Mrs. F. W. Robinson, of the Otis Library, Norwich, then read a paper on "The humorous side of a librarian's life," quoting among other titles of books asked for "Thrust out of Paradise" ("Driven back to Eden"), "A total wreck" ("An utter failure"), "A good-looking country girl" ("A fair Barbarian"), "Just so regardless" ("Sartor resartus"), "Santaberry Chinese" ("Cantebury chimes"), "Dikkaplin" ("Discipline"), "Something rigid" ("An original belle"), "a book that is sad and heroic," "a sort of a thickish book for somebody who reads very fast," returned the next day for "one with more religion in it." The paper's only defect was its shortness.

The following list of officers was unanimously elected: President, the Rev. Samuel Hart, of Trinity College; vice-presidents, H. F. Bassett, of the Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury; W. A. Borden, of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven; Miss M. A. Richardson, of the New London Public Library; the Hon. E. D. Robbins, of the State Board of Education; Mrs. F. W. Robinson, of the Otis Library, Norwich; treasurer, W. J. Hills, of the Bridgeport Public Library; secretary, Miss Louise M. Carrington, of the Beardsley Library, West Winsted; assistant secretary, Miss Nellie W. Chaffee, of the East Haddam Public Library, Moodus.

After a discussion of the use of scrap-books on special subjects in libraries, invitations were received from the Watkinson Library, the library of Trinity College, and the Newton Case Library for the afternoon.

Mr. Stetson exhibited several pages of his new author, title, and subject lists printed by the linotype process, which he has found inexpensive and usually free from errors, but not equal to the best printing. The meeting adjourned for luncheon, and at 2 o'clock visited the large and interesting display of historical portraits in the Watkinson Library, and such other libraries as the storm permitted.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The following call was sent to library people throughout the State early in December:

DENVER, COLO., Dec. 12, 1892.

A meeting of those interested in libraries will be held at 3 p.m., Thursday, December 29, at the High School, District Number One, Denver. The following question will be discussed:

"Is it advisable to organize an association of librarians for such purposes as the following?"

"(1) To stimulate library interests in Colorado by means of addresses, articles in the press, circulation of printed matter and other proper means.

"(2) To promote co-operation among the librarians of Colorado.

"(3) To co-operate with the American Library Association in promoting general library interests.

"(4) To gather reliable statistics in regard to the libraries of the State.

"(5) To consider library legislation, etc."

Should it be decided at the meeting to form a permanent organization, a constitution, similar to that outlined below, might be considered. This draft is the outcome of a comparison of the constitutions of similar associations in other States.

1. This association shall be called The Colorado Library Association.

2. Its objects shall be to promote the library interests of the State of Colorado.

3. Any person engaged in library work or interested in the objects above stated may become a member on the payment of one dollar (\$1.00).

4. The officers of the association shall be a president, vice-presidents, a secretary and treasurer, who shall constitute the executive committee, which shall have power to act for the association in the intervals between its meetings.

5. A meeting shall be held during the session of the Colorado State Teachers' Association, and at such other times as the executive committee may determine.

6. Dues for necessary expenses shall not exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per year.

It is hoped that you will attend this meeting. This circular is not sent out to forestall criticism or suggestions, but simply to suggest to you a possible course of procedure. (Signed)

J. C. DANA, *Libn. Pub. Lib.*

C. R. DUDLEY, *Libn. Merc. Lib.*

B. M. LEWIS, *Libn. Y. M. C. A. Lib.*

N. B. COV, *State Supt. Pub. Instr.*

In response to this call a number of librarians from Denver and other parts of the State met in the East Denver High School building, December 29. After a brief discussion they resolved to organize a library association, and elected the following officers:

President, J. C. Dana, Denver Public Library; vice-presidents, S. F. McCreery, State Normal School Library, Greeley; B. M. Lewis, Y. M. C. A. Library, Denver; M. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo; secretary-treasurer, C. R. Dudley, Mercantile Library, Denver.

The constitution quoted above was adopted except as to clause 5, which was changed to read as follows: "Two stated meetings shall be held each year—one during the session of the Colorado State Teachers' Association, the other on the second Saturday in June. Other meetings shall be held at such times as the executive committee may determine."

The executive committee was instructed to appoint committees on legislation, library statistics and publication and library promotion. It is expected that a special meeting will be called at an early date, when matters of importance will be discussed.

Library Clubs.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

The eleventh meeting of the club was held in Boston, at the Boston University, on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

President Fletcher called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. In opening he spoke of New Hampshire being the first State to pass a law granting permission to towns to establish libraries, and Massachusetts the first to pass the law providing pecuniary assistance, querying whether Massachusetts would be first to require every town to make an appropriation for a library's support, and if the club should take any steps in the matter.

Miss Morse wished to know the feelings of the members on this subject; she felt that the State should not force the towns lest it strike at their independence—that each town should take the initiative. Miss Hayward moved that the chair appoint a committee of three to report later what action the club ought to take. The chair appointed Miss Hayward, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Chase.

The first subject for discussion was the pay of library assistants. Mr. Fletcher said there were two classes of workers: those who have had no special training, who work for nothing, in the hope of working into a permanent place when a vacancy occurs, and those who have had training and possess special ability. He thought with regard to the latter that there should be some systematized regulations as to hours and payments. It was stated that at the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, and at the Los Angeles Public Library pupil substitutes are employed, who work for what they learn. Mr. Cutter said that he ceased to take pupil assistants, as he had found work done for nothing dear work, unless the assistant when trained became part of the library force; in that case the time spent in training was well spent. Mr. Houghton thought we should not wish to have any one work for nothing—that all ought to be paid. Mr. Birtwell felt that librarians have a responsibility as to the salaries of assistants; that they ought to see that the community deals fairly, for it is only fair play that assistants should be able to live in such a way as they ought to live, and that those who have it in their power should guide the community to right moral views. Mr. Cutter thought public opinion was advancing in the right direction, as in 1858 women were paid 6 cents an hour at Harvard, which was increased after 6 months' service to 6½.

From the various figures given it seems that first assistants have from \$500 to \$800, delivery-desk attendants from \$400 to \$500, and runners from 6 to 10 cents an hour.

The report on Lists of Books, which was presented at the Concord meeting, was next considered. Mr. Jones spoke of the difficulty there would be in getting the books needed, since the Library Bureau is not ready yet. It will begin with the books of the A. L. A. Library within a few months, but will not take current books for some time. Miss Bean feared that under the

proposed plan notices of books could not be distributed quickly enough to be of use. Mr. Birtwell hoped the discarded books might be specified as well as those recommended.

In view of the Library Bureau having deferred its action, it was moved that the chair appoint a committee to whom this report be referred for future action, and the same committee was accordingly appointed.

The evening session was opened at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Jones presented the subject of Delivery-Desk Difficulties. He said that the delivery-desk attendant must be a person of special qualifications; there must be true politeness, patience, control of temper, a spirit of helpfulness, quick perception, knowledge of books, a readiness, after having freely received, to freely give. He mentioned five points on which the public is inclined to take exception. In coming to be registered one will occasionally refuse to furnish a reference; and in this connection comes the question, how often is re-registration advisable? Second, people will come without numbers on their cards, will neglect to cross out numbers, and will frequently dispute dates. Then, too, they consider fine notices an insult, and the Salem Library now sends sealed notices instead of postal cards. As to renewing books, shall people be required to bring the books back to the library? Lastly, what shall be done about transferring books? If there are two copies of the book, shall the other one be given out? Miss Bean said they never transfer at Brookline; when a book is returned it is not ready to go out again until it has been examined. Miss Chandler saw no reason for not transferring. Mr. Houghton sympathized with Miss Chandler, and saw no reason for trouble from a book remaining in a certain circle; in the case of different members of a club asking the transfer of book he would suspend rules.

Mr. Whitney told of a reader who, having sent up the book-number of one of George Eliot's novels, complained that the wrong book had been given her; what she wanted was her "Cross Marian."

Mr. Jones reported from the committee appointed in the afternoon that it was deemed not expedient for the club to take any action towards influencing the legislature since it had the State Commission, and that the committee considers it better to urge rather than force towns to establish libraries.

At nine o'clock the club adjourned.

ELIZABETH P. THURSTON, *Secretary*.

N. Y. LIBRARY CLUB.

THE regular February meeting of the club was held at the library of the Young Men's Christian Association, corner 23d Street and 4th Avenue, N. Y. City, February 9, 1893. The meeting was called to order at 3 o'clock, about 40 members being present. The president, Mr. Berry, called upon Mr. R. B. Poole to read his paper, entitled "The Manuscript Age," printed in this number. It was illustrated by numerous examples of manuscripts and fac-similes, which were passed about the audience for inspection.

Mr. Berry. — The subject which has been presented to us is a very interesting one. Some one may have some questions which he may wish to ask Mr. Poole.

Mr. Poole. — It took a man after Wickliffe's time (1384-1420) about ten months to make a copy of a Bible, and it cost \$200.

Mr. Bursch. — What is the meaning of the word *codex*?

Mr. Poole. — It is applied to all manuscripts.

Mr. Tyler. — I would like to make a few corrections of statements made by Mr. Poole. The word *codex* never refers to a scroll, but to manuscripts stitched at the back like the books we now use.

Some papyri are much older than stone monuments and have come down to us in much better condition. The best authority was Samuel Birch, of the British Museum, and he says that the documents that have come down to us (referring to the stone age) are in a much worse state than those on papyrus. There was found about four years since — in 1888, I believe — in the Fayyum on the west bank of the Nile, about 40 miles from Cairo, what might well be termed the wreck of an ancient library. There were some 1600 known papyri before that time, but 30,000 were then found in one collection. It will take many years before they can be unrolled. If you take charred paper (which they resemble) and attempt to unroll it you realize the difficulty of this work. They must be moistened and laid out on paper, and unrolled with the utmost care. Among these a fragment of Homer was found which contained one-seventh more matter than has come down to us. The papyrus plant can be found growing in the fountains in New York City, in Union and Washington Squares. There was one specimen in the Harvard Botanical Garden, where it was preserved with great care; but in New York, in 1888, there was a magnificent display of about a dozen plants, from which I secured a stalk some five feet in length. I think Mr. Poole has done excellent work in the time that has been given him, and congratulate him upon his interesting and valuable paper. I have been for twenty years interested in this line of work, and know what it cost him. The uncial were used for letters of formality and compliment, and a Roman would not have insulted a friend by writing to him in a running hand; but would write to him in "great letters," as the Apostle Paul says he wrote his Epistle to the Galatians. Later the necessities of the age required faster work, and rapid writers took the place of the beautiful writers, or calligraphers as they are called. The first five lines of a manuscript were often set off in very fine, large, beautiful characters, which were then followed by others, less elaborate, as in the examples that have been shown to you by Mr. Poole this afternoon.

These books have come to us in all sorts of states, found in the cellars of old monasteries, covered with dust, dirt, and snails. They have even been cut up and used in the binding of other volumes. Scholars have taken the greatest care to preserve the smallest scrap of such manuscripts.

The palimpsest is a manuscript in which the original writing has been erased in order to furnish writing material for a new work. Many manuscripts of inestimable value have thus been lost to the world, so as to make place for obscure theological works.

Mr. Poole.— Sometimes the different parts of a manuscript become separated, and cases are known where fragments of the same manuscript can be found in the different libraries of Europe.

Mr. Tyler.— Speaking of illustrated manuscripts, in the Astor Library is a large book which is beautifully illustrated and on which the gold is so heavily laid that it will take the heat from your hand the same as the real metal. All our extant Biblical manuscripts have been written since the time of Diocletian, who died in 305 A.D. The destruction of manuscripts has been something appalling. In the French Revolution 90,000 were destroyed. Mr. Uhler, librarian of the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, Md., told me that he saw 50 two-horse truck loads of the Pacific R. R. Survey sold as old paper, from which he rescued 9 sets at 3 cents per pound.

Of one set of papers of the U. S. Engineer Corps there is not a complete copy in existence. The entire edition went to the paper-mill. The only vestige of the work is a scrap-book consisting of the proof-sheets which Mr. Spofford rescued and had mounted in this form.

Many old manuscripts contain marginal notes in a hand differing from that of the manuscript itself. It is believed that many collectors sent their copies to the authors to be corrected. It was considered to lend value to the book, just as we now take a book to the author for his autograph. This may account for some of the marginal corrections.

Mr. Poole then made the announcement that Mr. W. C. Prime would not be able to give his promised address until next fall.

Mr. Berry then stated that owing to the absence of Mr. Baker the programme for the next meeting could not be given. He said: "Notice will be given of the subject in the call for the meeting which will be held at the Astor Library."

The following letter from Mr. Henry M. Leipzig was then read:

"To the Library Club.

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I beg to make the following explanation in reference to the committee appointed last fall to bring about a closer connection between the schools and free libraries.

"A meeting was held in November and a plan of action decided upon. I had arranged for a meeting of the school principals early in January, but my illness intervened.

"By the next meeting I trust matters will be in such shape that a definite report can be presented. Certainly, in the light of the recent liberal board of apportionment and the earnest management of the libraries, the end we desire should not be difficult of attainment."

Mr. Berry.— It is hoped that the meeting between the schools and libraries may be held before the end of this season. It may be possible to have it held in May.

This matter needs to be more agitated. The committee seems to be in earnest; and those informed on the subject could not but be interested in such a meeting. Let the public understand that they will always be welcome at our meetings.

Mr. Hill.— With reference to our attendance, permit me to say that I was in Boston yesterday, and attended a meeting of the Boston Library Association. They had three sessions, and the Chicago Club have two or three sessions. It may be necessary for us to bestir ourselves if we expect to retain our prestige.

The meeting then adjourned.

GEO. WATSON COLE, *Secretary.*

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

THE 10th regular meeting was held at the Newberry Library, February 2, 1893.

The meeting was called to order by the president, W. B. Wickersham, at 8 p.m., with a fair number of members and visitors present. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved as published in the January number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Mr. Hild, as a member of the committee to provide accommodation for visiting librarians during the Exposition, made a preliminary personal report of the progress of the work of the committee. Mr. Hild had himself seen the chief of the Bureau of Public Comfort of the Columbian Exposition. That bureau is doing all in its power to find comfortable accommodation for large numbers in the city as well as in the vicinity of the Exposition grounds. Even a canvass of private houses has been made, and there will be no trouble in securing good quarters for all that may apply, at reasonable prices. The bureau also has the pledge of leading hotel proprietors to reserve rooms at two weeks' notice, and the committee will themselves see hotel managers near the grounds to secure every advantage. Mr. Hild spoke of the desirability of having the library people near together with central headquarters, and will communicate with the officers of the American Library Association to have all information obtainable and the necessary instructions embodied in their forthcoming circular. The committee was continued for further work with power to act.

Fourteen applicants for membership were upon recommendation by the executive committee unanimously received.

Mr. Hild moved that the club be incorporated, which motion was seconded by Dr. Poole and unanimously carried. The executive committee was instructed to procure the papers.

Dr. Poole then read a paper on "The broad lines on which a reference library should be established and maintained." The paper was originally a report to the committee on books of the Newberry Library, and was, as the doctor prefaced it, "rather practical than theoretical."

A discussion followed, participated in by Mr. Hild, Miss Clarke, and the essayist.

Dr. Karl Pietsch, of the Newberry, read a paper "On the history and bibliography of paleography." He began with Mabillon's "De re diplomatice libri VI," 1681; showed the share which the different countries, especially France and Germany, had in making paleography a science, spoke of its present condition, the most competent representatives of the science in universities, and concluded by indicating how much there is

still to be done. After making a few remarks on epigraphy, Dr. Pietsch gave a short bibliography of paleography, referring for further details to an article by Daniel Grand in the *Revue des langues romanes* for 1889, and to the reports by Wilhelm Wattenbach in the *Jahresberichte der Geschichtswissenschaft*.

Dr. Pietsch finally pointed out what he considers the best way to study paleography: to take up Wattenbach's "Anleitung zur lateinischen paläographie," Arndt's "Schrifttafeln zur Erlernung der lateinischen Paläographie," and to read in connection Wattenbach's "Schriftwesen im Mittelalter."

Some books from the rich paleographical collection of the library were shown the audience by the kindness of Mr. Morenius.

In place of Mr. C. Alex. Nelson, of the Newberry, who was confined at home by illness, Dr. Poole then set forth the features and value of the "Robert Clarke Fish Collection," recently purchased by the Newberry and comprising 1500 volumes. The collection, according to Dr. Poole, is the largest and most complete on the subject known, one work in it being represented by no less than 60 editions. It is the result of the life-work of Mr. Clarke, who was desirous of having some guarantee that the collection would be kept together. The largest collection known heretofore is now in the Harvard College Library, and consists of 700 volumes, but it is known that a Chicago gentleman has one numbering 750 volumes. The meeting adjourned 9:35.

E. F. L. GAUSS, *Secretary*.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

GREENWOOD, T. Sunday-school and village libraries; with a list of suitable books and hints on management. London, J. Clarke, 1893. 6 + 95 p. 8°. 1s. 6d.

RÉVER, Prof. Dr. E: Entwicklung und Organisation der Volksbibliotheken. Lpz., W: Engelmann, 1893. 21. + 116 p. O.

80 pages are filled with well-arranged statistics; the rest of the book is devoted to good advice on the steps to be taken to establish libraries for the people, their locality, the cost, purchases, organization, and aims.

RICHTER, P. E. Verzeichniss der Bibliotheken mit gegen 50,000 u. mehr Bänden. 2. Lpz., G. Hedeler, 1893. 30 p. 8°, interleaved. 5 m.

STEFFENHAGEN, E. Ueber den Einfluss fest bestimmter Grössenklassen der Bücher auf Raumansnutzung in Bibliotheken, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf die Kieler Universitäts-Bibliothek. Kiel, Lipsius & Tischer, 1893. 11 p. 8°. 80 m.

WHITTIER, Josiah H. State aid to libraries, and benefits of free public libraries and laws relat-

ing to the same, together with a proposed law providing for the establishment, maintenance, and supervision of free public libraries. Rochester, N. H., Courier Printing Establishment, 1893. 46 p. O. pap.

Mr. Whittier is secretary of the New Hampshire board of library commissioners. The plan he advocates in this brochure is rather an extension than a change of the New Hampshire library law of 1891, which allowed \$100 worth of books to every town not possessing a free library. The weak point in this method of starting public libraries is that it in no way provides for the continued maintenance of the libraries thus formed. It is an easier matter to start a library than to continue its existence on proper lines thereafter, for through one cause or another it is likely to fall behind the times or run into a line of reading that is neither profitable nor suited to the needs of the community. To meet this Mr. Whittier proposes the enactment of a law which would make it obligatory upon all towns to raise by taxation a small annual sum to be expended in the maintaining of free public libraries. In the bill drawn by Mr. Whittier this tax is to be fixed at the rate of \$30 for every dollar of public taxes apportioned to the individual towns. To towns in which this sum does not amount to \$100 the State is to lend a helping hand by a grant of books equal to the difference between the sum and the \$100. That would insure every public library at least \$100 a year for new books, and the cost to the State is estimated at less than \$9000.

LOCAL.

Albany, N. Y. On Feb. 9 the board of regents convened to consider plans for the development of the library system of the State, submitted to them by Melvil Dewey, State librarian. The establishment of libraries under the law of 1892 and the methods to be used to encourage their foundation were thoroughly debated. Resolutions were passed awarding regular charters for new libraries at Oneonta, Sing Sing, Addison, and Catskill, and provisional charters were given for the establishment of libraries at East Chatham, Ballston, and North Parma.

State Librarian Dewey exhibited to the regents a travelling library of 100 volumes in a neat oak case, and stated that he now had ready 20 of these travelling libraries. There are 10 different sets of books in these oak cases, all of them modern, in excellent bindings, varied in character, and printed in excellent type on good paper. The collection cost \$2000. Already 14 applications have been made for these travelling libraries.

Albion, Mich. Col. A. T. Bliss, of Saginaw, Mich., has given \$50,000 to Albion College for the erection of a library building and memorial hall. The conditions are that \$30,000 shall be raised as an endowment fund for the support of the library and \$10,000 for the memorial hall.

Baltimore. Enoch Pratt F. L. (7th rpt.) Added 16,110; total 122,773; issued 452,733 (fict. 76 + 4); lost and paid for 59; missing 45. Regis-

tration during year 4431; total registration 55,551.

Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. P. L. (19th rpt.) Added 664; total 21,619; issued 47,203. "In no previous year has there been so much reading and consultation of books in the library, sometimes obliging the librarian to devote all of her time during library hours to this part of her work.

"The record of books given out to the teachers for use in the public schools is smaller than last year. Some of the teachers ceased to avail themselves of the privilege. I presume they found that the distribution and care of the books make too many demands on their busy days. There is rarely a day in which scholars are not in the library looking up some subject in relation to their studies—a fact connected with their geography, the biography of a historical character, fuller information on some event, matter for a lyceum debate, a selection either in prose or poetry for declamation, and most frequently references to use in their study of civil government. The private and parochial schools also depend on our resources.

"More than one-half of the circulation is reported as fiction and juvenile literature; but this classification may be misunderstood, for under this heading are instructive books on many subjects, carefully arranged for the reading of the young.

"It is natural for children to enjoy the imaginative in literature, and the public library, while supplying this need, prevents their buying or borrowing and reading worthless and sensational stories which must lower their tone mentally and morally. The public library encourages the taste and supplies the demand for better books."

Butte City, Mont. Plans for the new library building have been accepted. Work is to begin at once, and the date for completion of the building is set for Oct. 1, 1893.

Cambridge, Mass. Harvard Univ. L. (15th rpt.) Added 13,785; total v. 399,485; total pm. 389,999. Use of books in Gore Hall 91,082; no. persons entitled to draw books 2325. Sunday visitors 3284 (Sunday av. 88).

"Sixteen years ago only 57 per cent. of all the college students used the library. In the last year, of the 1287 undergraduates only 247 failed to borrow books, and most of these probably used the reserved books in the reading-room."

The shelf-lists of the classification in the stack were verified in July, showing about 165,000 v. "The number of volumes which failed to be accounted for was 65. Of those reported missing in previous years 30 were found in their places, having been silently returned during the year. Three of these were reported missing as far back as 1883. Of books reported missing since 1883 there are still 437 unaccounted for; 270 having disappeared from the reserved books, and 167 from the stack. Of these 65 unaccounted for volumes of the year just closed 26 have disappeared from the books of reference, reserved books, and other collections exposed to the handling of all frequenters of the library, the other 39 having disappeared from the shelves to

which only the staff of the library, officers of the college, and a limited number of other persons have access."

Mr. Lane in his report on the year's cataloging says: "I have made some improvement in our practice in the matter of full names, especially of French and German authors. It is the general custom of all large libraries to give these names in the fullest form that can be found, including all the supernumerary baptismal names which are seldom or never used by the author in his books. I am convinced that this is a serious mistake, and that the name on our cards should agree as nearly as possible with the form which the author uses on his title-pages, with the single exception that initials should be filled out when they can be. A radical change, however, cannot be carried out when a catalogue already consists of over 700,000 cards."

Librarian Winsor concludes by saying: "I have in earlier reports exhausted the language of warning and anxiety, in representing the totally inadequate accommodations for books and readers which Gore Hall affords. Each 12 months brings us nearer to a chaotic condition. The library goes on with its natural accessions, and friends of learning give us the means to add more and more to our growth. We have as yet no assurance to give them that their gifts can be properly cared for and the use of their books properly regulated for the general good."

Cambridge (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 3327; total 36,643; lost 22; issued 122,271 (fict. 45 %); no. cardholders 13,765.

Charleston (N. H.) P. L. McALPINE, C. C. *archit.* View. (In *Amer. architect*, Jan. 28.)

Chicago, Ill. On Feb. 2 the workingmen's free library, established by the Building Trades Council, was opened at 121 Fifth Avenue. There are 1000 v. on the shelves, the book capacity being about 15,000 v. The reading-room contains files of the leading newspapers and labor journals. Brief addresses were delivered at the formal opening by Judge R. S. Tuthill, J. B. Cogswell, D. C. Cregler, and others. The library will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. W. H. Cutting is librarian.

Cincinnati (O.) P. L. Arrangements are now being made to establish delivery stations for the distribution of books in the outlying wards of the city. In each district a small branch will be opened, to which the books will be sent from the library and where they will be called for by readers. It is hoped to have the plan in working order by May.

Cleveland (O.) P. L. (24th rpt.) Added 5158; total 72,078; issued, ref. use, 33,586; home use 286,583 (fict. 42.10 %); receipts \$41,727.83; expenses \$28,225.

The reference-room, open 360 days, has been visited by 57,528 people, of whom 10,628 came on Sunday; 246 periodicals are on file.

"The plan of permitting free access of borrowers to the shelves still continues to give great satisfaction to those using the library. It certainly makes the library much more valuable to

those using it; and it is at the same time a measure of decided economy in administration. There is no doubt, from a careful comparison, that it would cost at least \$1500 per annum more to issue the same number of books by the former plan. The use of the alcoves of the circulating department for reading and study continues to be an important feature of the work and one which adds largely to the value of the library. It would only be possible under the present arrangement which allows free access to the shelves. The results of still another year's experience show that the advantage, both of convenient and satisfactory use of the library by its readers, and of economical administration, are altogether in favor of the open library.

"The work of issuing books to the teachers of the public schools has been enlarged. About 3500 v. were issued to more than 100 teachers. These they retained in most cases during the year, and used them freely as loaning libraries for their pupils and the families of their pupils. They are, in the opinion of those teachers who have used them, an helpful adjunct to the school work. With an adequate supply of books the work might be greatly extended. Not less than 12,000 v. might be used in this way to great advantage. If it were possible to form a collection of books especially for this purpose, which might be issued promptly to the teachers at the beginning of the year, and be retained throughout the year, making such changes as might be desired from time to time, and keeping such an intelligent oversight as might insure the safe keeping of the books, and at the same time assist the teachers in using them to the best advantage, its value to the schools could hardly be estimated.

"The most important event of the year was the opening of a branch library on the West Side. On March 12 the branch was opened to the public by an informal reception. It occupies the entire second floor of the building No. 562 Pearl St., is 98 by 38 feet in size, is well lighted, has convenient study, toilet, and janitor's rooms. A little less than 5000 v. were placed upon the shelves—in part duplicates from the main library, and in part new books—which number was later increased by purchases to 5628. The plan of administration has been the same as that at the main library, unrestricted access being allowed to the book-shelves by all wishing either to use the books in the library or to draw them for home use. The issue of books was begun on Monday, March 14, and the library has been open every day since excepting the legal holidays. On Sundays it is open from 1 to 9 p.m. as a reading-room. From March 14 to August 31 inclusive 26,890 v. were issued (av. daily issue, 186 v.). The number of membership cards issued to date is 2093. The demand for good books has greatly exceeded the supply, and there is no doubt that a generous increase of the number of volumes in the library, enabling it to meet this demand, would largely increase the circulation. The branch since its opening has been under the charge of one of the most experienced assistants, to whose efficient work most of its success is due.

"The already assured success of this branch, with its meagre and inadequate equipment, demonstrates the usefulness of such branches in bringing the library within reach of those who need it."

Colorado State Univ. Added 597; total 8209; used about 30,000. Users have direct access to the shelves. The librarian has experienced no material inconvenience from the extension of this great educational privilege to university students.

Denver, Col. J. F. Murray, ex-officio State librarian and superintendent of public instruction, in a letter to the Denver newspapers calls attention to the inefficient state of the Colorado State Library and urges improvement. The special points he makes are:

"1. While the library is not a large one, the limited space it has does not allow a proper arrangement of the books.

"2. The law demands that papers, pamphlets, etc., shall be bound and filed away, and there has not been a dollar appropriated for that purpose for a number of years.

"3. If anything comes to the library by express or freight, the assistant librarian has to pay the bill from his own pocket or not receive it.

"4. If any of our neighboring States send for any State documents, the assistant librarian has to pay the express or let it be paid at the other end, which would be like making a friend a present of a horse and charging him for the halter."

Detroit (Mich.) P. L. (12th rpt.) Added 6941 (fict. and juv. 1789); total 115,661 (fict. and juv. 17,714); home use 315,888 (fict. 58.08%); lib. use 122,639; periodicals used 151,422.

Dover (N. H.) P. L. Added 1177; total 17,254; issued, home use, 52,846 (fiction 29,014); no. cardholders 6067; Sunday attendance 689.

"It was supposed at the beginning of this year that the circulation would be largely increased by the removal to the new rooms and the publication of the new catalogue. Yet the expected increase has not come. With all the aid that the new catalogue has given, the circulation of books for home use is 3000 less than last year; there have been 4000 fewer visitors to the reading-room, and the applications for new cards show a falling off of 71. It is impossible to be uncertain as to the reason for this decrease. All the conditions of library administration are the same or better than ever before. The place only has changed. And to the fact that the library no longer opens out directly upon the main thoroughfare of the city, must be referred the cause of the decline in its use. Through the long stormy winter evenings it was often the case in the old rooms that every seat was filled. In the present rooms there are only few on stormy nights."

Easthampton (Mass.) P. L. Added 392; total 9700; issued 14,600; no. members 292.

Elizabeth (N. J.) P. L. A course of three lectures on scientific subjects are being given under the auspices of the library trustees in the hope of arousing workmen and mechanics to a greater interest in the library. The first lecture,

on "Heat," was delivered on March 10, by Prof. W. F. Magee; the others will be "Applied Mechanics," by H. S. Hayward, and "Electricity and Magnetism," by Franklin L. Pope.

Essex Institute, Salem, Mass. The will of the late Dr. H. Wheatland, president of the Essex Institute, contains the following clauses:

"Second. I will and bequeath to the Essex Institute in Salem my library on condition that it shall always be left together in a separate room or alcove with such books that have been from time to time presented by me, and may hereafter be purchased from the income of funds by me bequeathed, and that no books be taken from the building except in extraordinary cases. My idea is that this should be a reference and not a consulting library.

"Third. I will and bequeath to the Essex Institute the sum of \$15,000 on the following conditions: Said sum to be safely invested, which, with the addition of all accruing interest thereon, until a sum of not less than \$25,000 shall be obtained, shall constitute a fund, the means arising therefrom to be appropriated as follows: Three-fifths for the services of a librarian or for the care and preservation of the library; one-fifth for the purchase of books on comparative anatomy and physiology and zoölogy; the remaining fifth for the purchase of books on history or biography, preference being given to those on local history or genealogy.

"Fourth. I direct that my specimens of natural history, historical relics, also manuscript of an historical character, be deposited with the Essex Institute."

Germantown, Phila. Friends' F. L. (Rpt.) Added 560; total 16,699; issued 11,695; lost 11. No. visitors 21,768; total registration 1400.

No fiction is included in the library. "Though the number of books circulated is not so large as in some former years, yet it is considerable when the high character of these books is remembered."

The rpt. includes a "List of books added in 1892."

Gloucester, Mass. Sawyer F. L. The exceptions taken by the late General Butler, counsel for the contestants in the Sawyer will case during the trial, never having been filed with the court, a final decree has been filed setting up the will of Samuel G. Sawyer, of Gloucester, and the case has been certified back to the Supreme Court and the estate will now be settled.

Cloversville (N. Y.) F. L. (13th rpt.) Added 1192; total 10,785; lib. use 3013; home use 47,835.

"It is evident that the larger number of our book-borrowers prefer recreative to instructive reading; nor is it surprising that after a hard day's work our readers seek to find relaxation and pleasure rather than instruction. However, the library has always faithfully endeavored to keep on its shelves the best imaginative literature only, and books of this kind, like all true works of art, convey incidentally a certain amount of information.

"The library has continued to co-operate with the public schools in aiding and supplementing the teachers' work.

"The various literary clubs and classes for study have used the library in their work, which covered a great variety of subjects. The Young People's Reading Circle has taken up one of the special courses in English literature prescribed by the regents of the University of the State of New York.

"The centre for university extension, established within this institution a year ago, has

maintained two classes; one in continuation of last year's work in English literature is studying English and American literature of the 18th and 19th centuries, the other the political history of the United States. Both classes are using the syllabi prepared under the auspices of the authorities of the university, viz.: The syllabus on American literature prepared by Chancellor C. N. Simms, of the Syracuse University, and the one on American history prepared by Prof. S. B. Harding, of New York. The members of all these classes are diligently at work, and enthusiastic in their efforts, using the library to the best advantage. It is hoped that at some future time we may be able to secure lecturers for our classes and by doing this will be enabled to bring the benefits of university extension to a larger number of our citizens."

Hartford (Ct.) L. A. Since Feb. 5 the reference-room of the library has been open on Sundays from 1 to 7:30 p.m. Books from the Watkinson L., except choice illustrated works, may be used in that room on Sunday if asked for on Saturday.

Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L. (8th rpt.) The rpt. covers 4 years, from July 1, 1888, to July 1, 1892. Added 11,787; total 51,694; issued, home use 1891-2, 142,953; ref. use 52,255. This is a falling off from preceding years, especially 1888-9, when the home use of books was 156,144, and the ref. use 103,858. The no. borrowers registered is 16,088.

"In 1885 the library secured the services of a binder, who moved his machinery into the building, and for 4 years the work of rebinding and repairing was done at the library. On July 1, 1889, the contract expired, and for motives of economy it was not renewed. The books had all been gone over and were in fair condition, and since then such books as are beyond the skill of attendants are sent to a binder out of the building.

"The scheme of classification of the library was originally intended to accommodate about 40,000 volumes. In June, 1889, the library had grown beyond these figures, making a re-classification an imperative necessity. During the work of re-classification the books have been withdrawn from circulation, one department at a time. The lowered circulation for reference and home use during the years 1889-91 is undoubtedly due to this withdrawal of the books from use. As soon as possible after re-classifying the books, finding lists have been made and published for biography, history and travel, poetry and the drama, literature and polygraphy, and fiction and juvenile fiction. One-third of the books are still being re-classified."

Lincoln (Neb.) P. L. POUND, Mrs. S. B. Lincoln's P. L., its history from 1875. (In *Lincoln Journal*, Lincoln, Jan. 15.) 3 col.

Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L. Saturday, Jan. 31, was the busiest day in the history of this library, 2144 books having been given out. The library has no delivery stations or branch libraries, and every book loan is made over a counter 20 feet

long. Moreover, there is no separate counter for reading-room deliveries, the desk attendants filling all requests for books, either for reading-room or home use.

Lowell, Mass. Mechanics' Library. "At the Worthen Street Baptist Church the Rev. Claude Raboteau preached on the third of the seven deadly sins, 'Physical sacrilege, or society's plunderers.' Among the kinds of plunderers and perpetrators of physical sacrilege he enumerated the modern novel, which he scathingly denounced, saying 80 per cent. of them were not fit to read. But he explained that his especial denunciation did not apply to the flood of highly colored literature that filled book-store windows, but to the kind having the odor of respectability, but insidiously conveying immoral ideas, debauching the virtue of boys and maidens who are nursing a devil when they take such books to the privacy of their chambers.

"Such books are uncoverers of evil to innocent minds. They inflame the imagination, rob the youth of the land of virility and breed disease, moral pestilence, and death. He referred to a visit to the Mechanics' Library, where he found that the lurid and licentious novels of Mrs. Southworth were worn by constant use, while the works of MacDonald, Thackeray, and Miss Mitford were as fresh as if new. He held the works of Emile Zola responsible for as much ruin and immorality as the dens of infamy. The Church of God had a mission to perform by saying 'Out with them!' in regard to such literature."

To this "lurid" denunciation the librarian replied next day: "The library has not had a new copy of any of Mrs. Southworth's works for over twenty years. They are seldom taken from the library, but are on its shelves; that they remain there in sight of the patrons is an argument in favor of their good taste. The works of MacDonald and Thackeray, I am sorry to say, are nowhere nearly 'as fresh as if new,' but are constantly taken out, any one of them being called for ten times as often as any one of Mrs. Southworth's, duplicates being often required. Miss Mitford's works are not often called for, but are certainly in as great demand as those of Mrs. Southworth. Mr. Raboteau's generalization in regard to the Mechanics' Library is a very hasty one, and it is certainly not based on a careful examination of it, or on any consultation with those who are in a position to know its condition and character."

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. The library board is arranging for the erection of a \$10,000 branch library for the North Side. The citizens of the vicinity have given bonds for \$2000, which will be added to the \$8000 furnished by the board. The site is already secured by gift, and as soon as plans and specifications are accepted work will begin.

Nashville, Tenn. Watkins L. It has been proposed to extend the facilities of the Watkins L. and make it a circulating library. Hitherto the library, which has been used chiefly by students of Watkins Institute, has been used solely for reference. Its income is too small to admit

of increased expense and a subscription-list has been started for an additional fund.

New York. Astor L. (44th rpt.) Added 6403; total 245,349; readers 53,459; reading-room use 190,049; visits to alcoves 8109; endowment \$2,011,976; general expenses \$22,964; spent for books, binding, etc., \$22,446. "Last summer a scarce book, advertised for by a second-hand dealer, was stolen from the library and sold to him, but afterwards traced and recovered. The thief was also caught and sent to the penitentiary."

New York. Lenox L. There was a first view of the Robert L. Stuart collection at the Lenox Library, Feb. 27, and of a special exhibit of Columbus letters and early Americana. The trustees sent out a large number of invitations, and about 800 ladies and gentlemen were present. The Columbus letters and many specimens of the Americana, exhibited for the first time in public, proved to be of particular interest. Grouped with these were the famous "Mazarin Bible," supposed to have been printed by Gutenberg in 1450-55, and some of the earliest maps of America.

The library will hereafter be open to the public and will be free in every sense, no cards of admission being required.

New York. Y. M. C. A. L. The 5th annual exhibition of art-books in the library was given on the afternoon of Feb. 23. There was a large number of visitors in the library all the afternoon. The exhibition was as complete and interesting in every way as those given in former years.

Newburg (N. Y.) F. L. (Rpt.) Added 627; total 18,234. Issued 63,648.

Rpt. covers pp. 23-25 of the "Annual rpt. of the board of education of the city of Newburg, 1892: Fortieth anniversary, 1852-1892." 68 p. D. pap., with 50 process cuts of schools and teachers.

North Carolina State L., Raleigh, N. C. (Biennial rpt.) Added 1503; total not given. A catalogue has been completed and printed, and another will be compiled during the year.

Paterson (N. J.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 1990; total 18,445. Issued 85,860 (fict. 79,8%—an increase of 2% over 1891); missing 13. No. card-holders 13,972.

"Teachers have taken on their special cards, 676 volumes. This number appears small, but it is twice as great as the largest number loaned in this way in previous years.

"We have endeavored to increase the studious use of the books in connection with the university extension movement which was started here about a year ago. The first course of lectures on chemistry was given last winter. A considerable number of books on the subject were added and a bulletin was issued containing a complete list of all books in the library on the subject. The issue of the list was, however, unavoidably delayed until the lecture course was far advanced toward the end, and the use of

the books was small. A course of 5 lectures on the Elizabethan period of English literature has been given this winter, and in connection with them reading lists have been issued from the library, and the books have been more extensively used than those on chemistry were. A third course of lectures is now beginning, the subject of this being electricity. On this subject the library has made a large collection of the latest and best books; a special list of them is to be issued at once, and there is reason to expect that they will be more largely used than those on the subjects of either of the other lecture courses."

Portland (Ore.) L. A. Added 508; total 18,999; issued 21,826. Membership 714. The treasurer's report shows a deficiency of \$78.35.

Princeton, N. J. College L. "A new system has been introduced recently for cataloguing accessions to the library. It is substantially a printed catalogue, including in one alphabet all books added during the year up to a given date. The linotype printing process reduces the expense, so that it costs little more to print a list brought up to date, in alphabetical order every month, than it would to wait until the end of the year to print a 'supplement.' The method is to keep the bars set up and every few weeks have the additions made during this time also set up and inserted alphabetically with the others. Five proofs are drawn, which are inserted in scrap-books with a wide margin. Every few days slips of the new books catalogued are posted alongside so that the unprinted column on the right always represents the very latest accessions made to the library."

St. Louis (Mo.) Merc. L. Assoc. (47th rpt.) Added 5048 v. (fict. 1015); total 83,071; lib. use 109,686 (fict. 99 %); home use 109,660 (fict. 72.5 %). The circulation is 3962 more than in 1891; fiction is 2 % less. 1963 v. were bound at an average cost of 59 cts.

"The statistics for the circulation of fiction include juvenile fiction and fiction in foreign languages. 'Library use' includes all books issued on call for use in the library building. It does not include the use of new books which are freely displayed in the issue-room and may be carried into the reading-room by any one. Books issued to students by the librarian himself while assisting them in their studies are not included, nor is any record kept of the use of the two or three thousand books in the reference-room, which were selected as the most called for, and to which every member can help himself. There are no statistics of the use of current periodicals in the reading-room, which is uncommonly great, as the weekly files of 56 daily papers and all the unbound numbers of the current volumes of 351 other periodicals are accessible to readers in open racks or cases without any formality.

"By comparing the statistics of issue of our library with those of other libraries of the same grade it will be noticed at once that the number of works consulted in the library building is extraordinarily large. As special pains have been taken this year to insure accuracy, I can confidently state that the number reported is below the actual number of books issued. On Satur-

days and other busy days when the attendance rises above a thousand, and the members come in waves rather than in steady streams, the attendants at the issue-desk (never more than four) are taxed to the utmost, and at such times it is not surprising if they fail to note every volume that is handed out for reading-room use on merely verbal application.

"The explanation for this large reference use lies, first, in the fact that our building is situated in the heart of the shopping district and within a few minutes' walk, at most, of all the large office buildings; and, secondly, in the more important fact that our city has no special reference libraries, no university library of any size, and, with a single exception, no important professional libraries. The condition of St. Louis in this respect is anomalous, and it speaks volumes as to the character of the work done in the Mercantile Library.

"The library is indebted to Mr. Robert S. Brookings for a cash donation of \$350, which was expended for popular new books and duplicates of standard novels. The publication of Mr. Guy's 'Pastime Reading' last year had the effect of directing the attention of readers to the classical works in English fiction, and the demand for such works increased so that many of our old copies were worn out."

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. The dedicatory and formal opening exercises of the St. Louis Public Library took place Feb. 17 at Entertainment Hall. Rev. Edward Everett Hale, of Boston, delivered the dedicatory address on "The institution that will do the most for the people's happiness and intelligence."

The speaker congratulated the friends of the institution on the auspicious promises of the occasion, and spoke of the event as its birthday, for he was confident that it would become a free library in every sense of the word before the close of the year; the importance of such an institution as an educator among the masses, also the moral influence it bestows upon the people, especially the middle and poorer classes, who could in no other way obtain the information and knowledge they persistently seek for. A great truth is contained in the little sentence, "Books are made to read," and this was emphasized by Dr. Hale between the lines of his address. They are not made to lock up in bookcases, and the library that can report the largest number of books worn out in clear, honest service during the year approaches nearest to the fulfilment of its mission.

St. Paul, Minn. Minnesota Hist. Soc. L. (Biennial rpt.) Added 5051; total 51,740. This includes v. bound and unbound.

Salem (Mass.) P. L. Added 2,400; lost 0; total 25,505; home use 106,142 (fict. 80.8 %, a decrease of 2 %).

"The essay index which is being prepared by members of the American Library Association has been so long delayed, and there are so many advantages in having the subject entries for all the books in the library in one alphabetical series, that your librarian has thought best to analyze all books containing separate essays or

otherwise treating of more than one topic, with the exception of the periodicals that are indexed in Poole's Index and supplements to the same. Shakespeare has been treated with special fulness, so that under the title of each play may be found all editions of the play and all comments upon the same. This Shakespeare bibliography contains 550 cards."

Salt Lake City, Utah. Pioneer L. Added 1300; total 10,000; issued 9344 (fict. 6534).

It is proposed to make the library a part of the public-school system, so that it may be entitled to a portion of the school tax. It was established in 1877 as a Masonic library, but since 1891 has been conducted by the Pioneer Association.

San Francisco (Cal.) F. L. "In October last the directors of the Free Library ordered 21 cases of Rudolph's Continuous Indexer. These cases are now being delivered at the library. They were made in this city and are entirely of oak with a good outside finish.

"Each case consists of two revolving hexagonal drums, over which is an endless chain of strong board-paper plates or pages, each plate corresponding with one of the faces of the drum, and each plate having the capacity of one royal octavo page or index. Each leaf or page of the chain can be readily unhooked for the insertion of new ones.

"Each revolution of the drum presents four pages for inspection under a glass cover. Each case will carry 800 royal octavo pages, and these pages form at present the endless chain in each case.

"The whole device forms a handsome locked case with a glass top through which the contents of the leaves are inspected with ease."

"For the present all the additions to the library since 1888 will be catalogued. The names from the old catalogues will be assorted and placed in the indexer under the proper headings. When this is done the library will be completely catalogued under one alphabet.

"At present the visitor is sometimes compelled to search through 13 alphabet catalogues and bulletins to find out whether the book he is seeking is in the library or not.

"Within a year by the use of the indexer the entire library will have been catalogued under one alphabet, and new books will be inserted in their proper place for the public the day they are received. All this will have been done at an expense of about \$5000.

"The old way of cataloguing would have taken about 7 years and an expense of \$25,000 to secure at best a defective catalogue.

"Mr. Rudolph, the inventor, is a Californian of 21 years' standing and has been at the library since 1879. He has a valuable patent, and California can claim through him the first solution of the very troublesome matter of library cataloguing."

Scranton (Pa.) P. L. (2d rpt.) Added 11,484; total 14,190. The books were moved into the

new building in Dec., 1892, and the library will be opened to the public early in 1893. In an appendix statistics of 12 libraries are given.

Stockton, Cal. Plans for the new Hazleton L. have been accepted and work will begin shortly. The library, which will cost \$50,000, will be built out of the fund of \$75,000 left to Stockton by Dr. Hazleton, of New York City, a year ago. The sum of \$15,000 is reserved for books to be added to the present library of 15,000 volumes.

According to the plans, the building will be of brick veneered with white marble one inch and a half thick. The architecture is of the Ionic order. The interior is to be finished in oak, and the ceiling is to be ribbed with beams of hollow steel. The first entrance leads into a vestibule with a tiled floor. Beyond that is the general delivery and reading room, which has a row of columns supporting the ceiling. This room is 80 x 40 feet. On either end there are two private rooms, partitioned off with glass, and immediately over them are small galleries. This is the main building, which is to be first erected, and during its construction it is proposed to leave the old building unmolested, excepting that the front will be taken out. From the general reading-room a steel drop-curtain will close the aperture that leads to the stock-room, which will be built at the centre of the old building and made absolutely fire-proof. To the right of the stock-room will be the lecture-room. There will be two rooms up-stairs on the north side, which are designed for art galleries. The librarian's office is located at a point convenient to all portions of the building.

TAYLOR, W: Pacific coast libraries. (In *Book news*, no. 126, pp. 262-263.)

"The most valuable collection in this city is the Sutro Library. Already the volumes number 200,000, and Mr. Geo. Moss, acting librarian, is hard at work storing the books at the Montgomery Block and 107 Battery Street, where temporary lodgment will be afforded till the new Sutro Library building is completed. This structure is to be located on the Byfield tract, north side of Golden Gate Park. The new building will have a front of 200 feet, and cost over \$375,000. Mr. Sutro will throw the new library open to the public, so that all may enjoy the costly collection of books he has gathered. Let me enumerate some of these in bulk: Duplicates of the great Munich Library; classical and early books from the Duke of Dolberg's library, and from that of the Monastery of Buxheim, 10,000 pamphlets relating to the Commonwealth periods and Civil Wars, from the Sunderland Library; 25,000 pamphlets, etc., to and including the reign of George III.; works relating to early United States history; a collection of pamphlets about railroads; old English plays; English calendars of state papers; books of English history, 1000 volumes from the Chipstead Park Library of F. Perkins; illustrated books on the European art galleries; 20,000 pamphlets and books relating to Mexico down to the year 1820; 30,000 Mexican

and Spanish books; a Semitic library, including valuable manuscripts from Jerusalem; Schiller Sziessy Library of Cambridge, England; 1500 volumes in the Semitic and Hamitic languages; 2500 works on chemistry; 1100 volumes of the late Col. David Wilder's military library; illustrated books on architecture, and also large collections of books relating to botany, zoölogy, scientific voyages, etc."

Tennessee State L., Nashville. (Biennial rpt.) Added 2122; total 30,850.

"An appropriation of \$250 per annum was made by the legislature of 1891 for library expenses. Out of this fund must be paid the incidental expenses of the library, and the transportation by mail and express of the books which are received by exchange from other State libraries. The proper distribution of this fund is entrusted wholly to the discretion of the librarian."

"The law department of the library has been well cared for and is fully abreast of the times, but in other respects the library has been almost wholly neglected for nearly 30 years. Occasional donations have been the sole source of the library's historical, economic, and scientific increase during a long period."

The librarian, Mrs. Williams, urges more purchases and a larger appropriation to buy books. Her report is the first issued in the history of the State Library.

Watchemoket, R. I. Ladies' F. L. A. Added 327; total 3259; issued 13,317 (fict. 12,624).

Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Osterhout F. L. The January *News-letter* has four letters, specimens of many sent to Miss James by children. One reads:

"Our class would like to have as many books as you could give us. If we could only have a book for each one of us we would be happy. We are so interested in the books you send us, we want more. Your little friend, M. M."

The others are like unto it.

Worcester (Mass.) P. L. In an interview in regard to the charge made by Rev. L. J. Lansing to the effect that a Catholic priest was exerting more influence than anybody else in the affairs of the public library, Mr. Green said:

"It is a rule which has existed some time in supplying the reading-room with periodicals, that no denominational papers shall be subscribed for, and that only such shall be placed on file as are given to the reading-room. There are two plans that may be followed: One, to put in papers representing all denominations; the other, not to subscribe to any. The directors of the library have always chosen to follow the latter and to rely on denominational interest for a supply of theological papers."

"Rev. Dr. Conaty, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, has recently begun to publish a magazine in this city, and has received a large number of papers in exchange. He kindly offered to furnish to the reading-room some of these periodicals, but very considerably required of the librarian whether he thought it would injure the library, in the view of any portion of the public, if

more periodicals, edited by Catholics, were put into the reading-room. After careful consideration by the directors and the librarian, his kind offer was accepted in so far as to place these additional papers in the reading-room."

"The directors are always glad to have representatives of different denominations furnish papers for the reading-room. Representatives of some denominations are doing that now. Some have done so hitherto, and have discontinued their gifts. The directors would be very much pleased to have any good denominational paper given to the reading-room. They would be particularly happy if Mr. Lansing would exert himself to have a copy of the *Congregationalist* put here, and also the *Christian Union*. The *Congregationalist* was formerly here, but its donor has recently discontinued his gift. The directors would like also a copy of the leading Baptist paper and of the *Churchman*. These papers were formerly given to the reading-room, but have been discontinued recently by those who gave them."

"When a denominational paper has ceased to come to the reading-room the librarian has had a letter written to the donor telling him that he would be glad to have the paper continue to come, that the rules of the reading-room do not allow its being subscribed for, and expressing the hope that the giver, or some representative of his denomination, will see to it that the paper continue to appear on our files."

Mr. Green further said that "Rev. Dr. Conaty exerts such an influence as his commanding powers entitle him to, but no one who sits with the board of directors would for a moment suspect him of any aggressive denominational spirit or of being other than very broad in his views and his efforts."

"It is untrue that the board of directors or the executive officers of the library are influenced by any denominational preferences. On the contrary, the affairs of the library are, they believe, conducted with the utmost impartiality. So far as the library proper is concerned it is the aim of all parties interested in the management to buy for it books representing all shades of theological opinion, expressed by the best authors, so that all persons having reached years of maturity might have the means of themselves forming theological opinions."

FOREIGN.

Aberdeen (Scotland) P. L. (8th rpt.) Additions not given; total, lending lib. 21,402; ref. lib. 12,502; home use 218,080 (fict. 44,805); lib. use (1 month only) 2924; no. of cardholders 10,009.

During the year the library was removed from its original quarters to the new building in Rosemount Viaduct. The removal and attendant closing of the library naturally reduced the circulation and ref. use of books for the year.

Adelaide P. L., Museum and Art Gallery. Added 1422; total 32,306; visitors 75,033; Sunday visitors 5757.

Brixton, Eng. Tate F. P. L. SMITH, Sidney R. J., *archit.* View and plan. (In *Amer. archit.*, Feb. 11.)

Land and building cost £15,000. As usual in English libraries, the librarian's house is under the same roof.

Bucharest. The library in the palace. View. (In *Illustr. Lond. news*, Jan 21, p. 87.)

Clerkenwell P. L., London. (5th rpt.) Added 853; total 13,287 (fict. 4298); issued 111,851 (fict. 76,064).

Dublin, Ireland. The fine library of the late Sir Bernard Burke (of "Peerage" fame) is shortly to be sold. It includes a rare collection of genealogical works and family county histories, including a great number of privately printed books.

Hamilton (Can.) P. L. Added 1677; total 18,002; issued 198,210 (fict. 37.3 %); receipts \$13,440.32; expenses \$13,395.54. 191 periodicals are on file in the reading-rooms.

"The privilege of admission to the shelves has been largely extended lately and seems to be much appreciated by readers; nor has it been abused, so far as we have yet discovered."

The chairman says: "I believe that we are all agreed that we were fortunate in securing the services of R. T. Lancefield as our librarian. He has proved himself to be the right man in the right place, and the successful working of the library and its great popularity are largely due to his exertions, with the able assistance of his very efficient lady assistants."

Mitchell L., Glasgow. (11th report, incl. 12th-14th years, 1889-91). Added 9734; total 90,937; issued 555,211 (fict. 48,518); turn over 5.92. The library has been placed in a remodelled building after two removes accompanied with discomfort but little loss or injury. The whole number of volumes issued in the old premises was 4,679,985 (fict. 9 %).

"There was, no doubt, a considerable amount of reading for entertainment or recreation, and inasmuch as the books available in the library for use in this sense are wholesome and of good influence, there can be no objection reasonably taken to this part of the service of the library. Occasionally exception has been taken to people getting out books to look at pictures, the reference generally being to the use of the *Illustrated London News*, the *Graphic*, or *Punch*, in bound volumes, which use is included in the 'miscellaneous' 30 per cent. before noted. But no good reason is stated why the almost universal taste for pictures should not be gratified, and the fact remains that many people get a much more vivid conception of an incident or a scene from an engraving than from a page of letterpress, however graphic; and this education through the eye is often at once direct and effective.

"When all deductions on account of 'light reading' are made, however, there remains an amount of reading for information, for study, for instruction, of an incalculable extent."

Munich. The valuable library of the celebrated Austrian encyclopædist, Dr. Constant von Wurzbach, numbering over 8000 volumes, and especially rich in rare biographical works, is

offered for sale; also, a collection of 45,000 portraits of eminent persons of all times and countries, which Dr. von Wurzbach has gathered, consisting of copperplates, steel-engravings, woodcuts, and drawings, some of them very rare, and containing 800 portraits and caricatures of Prince Bismarck alone. Further information can be had of R. von Wurzbach, Hermannstrasse 74, I., Munich, Schwabing, Germany.

St. Martins-in-the-Fields, London, F. P. L. Added ref. 3066, lending 151; total ref. 11,856 (of which 2384 belong to the Royal Historical Society), lending 11,306; issued ref. 70,171, lending 58,514.

"A notable fact is that more books have been consulted in the reference than have been borrowed from the lending library."

"The whole of the books have now been catalogued. The catalogue is a card one (typewritten), and is open to the use of the public. It is well understood by those availing themselves of the library, and is freely used, although, of course, the system of open shelves in many cases obviates the necessity of consulting the catalogue at all. The commissioners are glad to say that this plan of open shelves continues to work well."

"The commissioners earnestly wish they could enlarge the news-room, and although unable to incur this expense they have in conjunction with the vestry and Messrs. Willing fixed up boards on the railings of St. Martin's Church, on which the 'situation advertisements' portions of three of the morning papers are posted at an early hour. This has slightly relieved the crush in the news-room between 9 and 10 in the morning, and it has no doubt proved a boon to those out of work."

"There are now 53 large newspapers displayed in this room and 64 smaller papers. A neat directory stand was put up early in the year, and the principal directories are now screwed down on the counter."

"The same principle has been carried out in the magazine-room. The periodicals are fastened to the tables with sufficient cord to enable readers to peruse them without inconvenience, and signboards indicate the whereabouts of the periodicals."

Librarians.

HINRICHSON, Miss Savilah T., will succeed Miss Grace Pearson as Illinois State librarian. Miss Pearson will act as legislative assistant in the library during the 38th (1893) session of the General Assembly.

LANE, W. Coolidge, assistant librarian of Harvard College L., will succeed C. A. Cutter as librarian of the Boston Athenæum.

THE list of the writings of the members of the American Historical Association for 1891 credits the following librarians with publications: Burton, E. M., 3; Brock, R. A., 4; Burr, G. L., 1; Chamberlain, M., 2; Green, S. S., 12; Nield, E. D., 9; Poole, W. F., 2; Thwaites, R. G., 3; Winsor, J., 1.

Cataloging and Classification

AMES, J. G., *comp.* Finding list showing where in the set of Congressional documents the individual volumes of certain series of government publications are found. Wash., D. C., Government Print. Office [1893]. 52 p. O.

BATTERSEA (*Eng.*) P. L.'s. Central Library, Lavender Hill, S. W. Catalogue of the lending department. Comp. and ed. by Lawrence Inkster, chief librarian. 2d ed. London, Printed by Truslove & Bray, West Norwood, S. E., 1892. 227 p. O. bds. 6d.

A dictionary catalog, recording 11,549 titles. "Books are entered under the surnames of their authors, and as far as possible under the subjects of which they treat, novels and other works with distinctive titles being entered under the first word of each title which is not an article. In selecting subject headings preference has been given to conventional or popular terms rather than to a strictly scientific nomenclature, in the belief that this would be more convenient to the majority of readers, and for the same reason minute subdivisions have been avoided in the distribution of titles. By this arrangement the whole of the works of each author are collected under his name, and all books relating to a particular subject are ranged under the general heading of that subject." Printed on pale yellow paper.

The BERLIN KÖN. BIBLIOTHEK has issued a "Verzeichniss der Zeit- und Vereinsschriften der Bibliothek."

CINCINNATI, (O.) P. L. Bulletin of books in the various departments of literature and science added during 1892. Cincinnati, pub. by Board of Trustees, 1893. 146 p. F.

Consists of four classified quarterly bulletins, a subject index, and an index of authors, anonymous works, and collections. "The classification is simply for convenience, not at all pretending to scientific or bibliographical perfection." The author-index includes titles of authors' works, with call numbers. It is the more convenient as the four separate Bulletins necessitate considerable search and comparison before all the titles of all books on a given subject or by one author can be collected. Title entries in the Bulletins are unusually full, giving pseudonym or former name, full title and sub-title, place, publisher, date, paging, portraits or illustrations, size, and series. Paper and printing are excellent, and the general appearance of the catalog most creditable.

DES MOINES. The first printed catalog of the Des Moines Public Library has recently appeared, having been prepared for publication by the librarian, Miss Ella McLoney. In form the compiler has followed somewhat closely that of the catalog of the Cleveland Public Library. Great care has been bestowed on its compilation, and

no little credit is due the librarian for having produced so superior an example of cataloging within a year of her first introduction to the arduous duties of her profession. The appearance of the volume is also excellent typographically and in binding, and the work as a whole is a model of the cataloger's art. A. N.

MERCANTILE L., N. Y. Bulletin of new books. no. 14, Dec. 1. Number of vols. 241,578. N. Y., 1892. 58+[4] p. l. O. Fiction fills pp. 40-58.

The MINNEAPOLIS P. L.'s Quarterly bulletin vol. 1, no. 1, Jan., 1893 (18 p. O.), is classified (Edmands classification), and has short titles with place and date of publication. At the end is a Bibliography of Bibles in the library (2 p.).

MONTANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF. Catalogue of the library; also report of the librarian for 1891-92; prepared by W. F. Wheeler, librarian. Helena, Mont., 1892. 128 p. O.

The most primitive catalog that we have seen for many years. Perhaps this was to be expected from an entry in the accounts, "\$32.50, Making catalogue of Library." The first entry is "ANNIVERSARY, THE ONE HUNDREDTH—The Centennial Celebration, April 30, 1889, of the Inauguration of George Washington," etc. Two successive entries are:

TRAVELS in the Interior of America in 1809-10-11, by John Bradbury.

BURNABY'S Travels in North America, in 1759-60.

NARDUCCI, ENR. Catalogo di manoscritti ora posseduti da Baldassare Boncompagni. 2^a ed. notabilmente accresc., cont. una descrizione di 249 mss. non indicati nella prima e corredata di un copioso indice. Roma, tip. delle Sci. mat. e fis., 1892. 8+520 p. 8°.

The SALEM P. L. Bulletin for Feb. has a special reading list of 4 pp. on the French Revolution.

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) P. L.'s Library bulletin has issued, beginning with November, a list of its French books. The January no. extended from Galerie to Lotalot.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. State Library bulletin: Legislation, no. 3. Comparative summary and index of State legislation in 1892. Albany, Univ. of the State of New York, 1893. 64 p. O. pap., n. p.

Contains a classified comparative summary of the laws enacted during 1892 by 13 States and 1 Territory, and an alphabetic index of all specific topics contained in the summary, referring to each entry by its marginal number. In most cases the laws are briefly summarized as well as cited. Covers laws contained in the State Library. New legislation only is included.

WARNER, G. F. The library of James VI. of Scotland. (In *Athenæum*, Ja. 7. p. 17. 3¼ col.)

An account of a ms. catalog which has lain unnoticed in the British Museum since 1759, but thanks to Mr. Garnett has now been disinterred.

CHANGED TITLES.

"The flower girl of Paris" (Das Kind der Strasse), by Paul Schobert, tr. by Laura E. Kendall, Rand, McNally & Co., 1893, 12°, is same as "Picked up in the streets," a romance from the German of H. Schobert, tr. by Mrs. A. L. Wister, Phil., Lipp. Co., 1880, 12°.—W. A. BARDWELL.

FULL NAMES.

[Supplied by Harvard College Library.]

Ames, J.; Griffith (List of congressional documents);
Brigham, Albert Perry (A chapter in glacial history);
Garrett, Philip Cresson (A history of Haverford college);
Holman, Silas Whitcomb (Discussion of the precision of measurements);
King, Franklin Hiram (Observations on the fluctuations in ground-water);
Richards, Mrs. Anna Matlack (Letter and spirit);
Walker, Byron Edmund (The Canadian system of banking);
Way, Daisy Maxon (The Whipple natural alphabet);
Wilkie, Daniel Robert (Notes on banking in Canada);
Woodbury, C.; Jephtha Hill, joint author (The Saugus iron works).

Bibliography.

BACHA, EUG. Les bibliographies méthodiques. Brux., imp. de l'Écon. financière, 1893. 83 p. 8°. 2.50 fr.

BEEK, J. A. v. Lijst van eenige boeken en brochuren uitgegeven in de Oud-Katholieke Kerk van Nederland, 1751-1842. Rotterdam, H. T. Hendrikson, 1892. 24 p. 8°. .40 fl.

BEEK'S (Taco H. de) Gesch. d. Nederlandsche letteren, 1880-90, Kuilenborg, Blom en Oliveerse, 4+80 p. 8°. .60 fl., has "eene lijst van pseudoniemen."

BIBLIOGRAPHIE gén. et complète des livres de droit et de jurisprudence pub. jusqu'à 14 oct. 1892, classés dans l'ordre des codes, avec table alphabét. des matières et des noms d'auteurs. Paris, Marchal et Billard, 1892. 28+140 p. 8°.

BOURINOT, J. G. Bibliographical and critical notes on Parliamentary government in Canada. [Annual rpt. of the Am. Hist. Assoc. for 1891, pp. 391-407.] Washington, 1892. 8°.

This is an exceedingly full and valuable list, practically covering the whole of Canadian history.

BRANDSTETTER, J. L. Repertorium über die in Zeit- und Sammelschriften d. J. 1812-90 enthaltend. Aufsätze und Mittheilungen schweizer. geschichtlichen Inhalts. Basel, Ad. Geering, 1892. 4+467 p. 8°. 7.20 m.

CARDON, F. Pubblicazioni geografiche stampate in Italia, 1800-90: saggio di catalogo compilato e pub. in occasione del primo Congresso Geografico Italiano, Genova, 1892. Roma, Società Geog. Ital., 1892. 20+310 p. 8°.

CUMMINS, Ella Sterling. The story of the files. San Francisco. 8°, cl., \$2.

Now in press. A record of the periodical literature of California, containing a review of literary journals and magazines of California from 1852-1892, biographical sketches of their contributors, a bibliography of the best-known works by California writers, designs of headings and newspaper trade-marks, etc. Mrs. Cummins, 1605 Baker St., San Francisco, is author and publisher of the book, which is issued under the auspices of the Californian World's Fair Commission. As an index to the little-known periodical literature of the Pacific coast it should be of value to libraries.

FRAY-FOURNIER, A. Bibliographie de l'histoire de la révolution dans le département de la Haute-Vienne. Limoges, imp. Ussel frères, 1893. 9+21 p. 8°.

From the Archives révol. de la Haute-Vienne.

GIUSTO, D. Dizionario bio-bibliog. degli scrittori pugliesi. Fasc. I. Bari, Pansini, 1893. 18 p. 8°.

MADRID. R. ACAD. DE LA HISTORIA. Bibliografía Colombina; enumeración de libros y documentos concern. a Cristóbal Colon y sus viajes; obra que publica la Real Academia de la Historia, por encargo de la Junta directiva del Cuarto Centenario del descubrimiento de America. Madrid, 1892. 10+686 p. F. Not in the trade.

MANNO, Ant. Bibliografia di Dogliani. Torino, stamp. reale della ditta G. B. Paravia e C., 1892. 11 p. 8°. (Only 200 copies.)

Extr. from the *Bibliog. stor. degli stati della monarchia di Savoia*, v. 5.

UNITED STATES. SIGNAL OFFICE. Extract no. 11 from annual report of the chief signal officer, 1891. Wash., D. C., Gov. Print. Office, 1892. 26 p. O. pap., n. p.

Report of Oliver L. Fassig, bibliographer and librarian, including bibliographies of "Publications of the U. S. Signal Service from 1861 to July 1, 1891," and of "Publications of individuals connected with the office of the chief signal officer." The bibliographies cover 21 p.

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The new volume includes the features of the "Co-operative Index to Periodicals," originally a monthly supplement to the *Library Journal*, then extended into a quarterly in an enlarged form, and later issued as an annual volume.

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